TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE

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FARM PROBLEMS CONSIDERED BY PRESIDENT AS RURAL INTERESTS APPROACH BANKRUPTCY

HARDING WILL HAVE TO FACE LEAGUE ISSUE

Arrival in U. S. of Ex-Premier Viviani of France Directs Attention of President to Europe.

Reluctantly or not the attention of the Harding administration will be dragged away from things domestic and turned to the biggest piece of unfinished business left by the old regime—the League of Nations and the adoption of a European policy.

The arrival of Rene Viviani, the former French premier, is going to take the spotlight temporarily at least from taxation, tariff, patronage and the thousand and one other things that have kept the new President and his advisers laboring many hours a day since March 4.

Viviani is coming to the United States in the dark as far as knowing in advance what he may expect from the new administration. The new administration is almost as completely in the dark concerning M. Viviani. Jules J. Jusserand, the French ambassador, it is true, conferred at the White House with President Harding concerning the extraordinary envoy's mission, but it is understood he was able to inform the executive but little outside of the fact that the ex-premier was coming to "pay his respects."

Concerns the League.

That M. Viviani's chief mission concerns the League of Nations and America's attitude towards it, there is but little doubt. Aside from this, it is the general conviction that the ex-premier's big task is to obtain the moral support of the United States in the efforts now being made by France and England to compel Germany to pay the indemnity claims.

France believes, whether rightly or wrongly, that if the United States had ratified the treaty and joined the league Germany would never have dared refuse the demands of the allies in the reparations settlement. Even now France believes, according to information reaching a number of Republican senators, that if Washington can be prevailed upon to say something or do something that will show Germany the United States is still back of the allies the right-about face of the Berlin government will be swift and certain.

This indication of American support could be given in various ways —a presidential letter to the chairman of the senate committee on foreign relations, a senate resolution, a White House communication abroad, or by a mere announcement to the press following the Harding-Viviani conference.

Consider Deal Problem.

While Paris has seen fit to issue equivocal denials that M. Viviani's visit in any way concerns the $3,000,000,000 which France owes the United States it is nevertheless considered certain in Washington that this debt problem will be taken up. It is closely allied in the French mind with the reparation settlement. Until Germany is forced to pay, France cannot relieve her debt to the United States, according to the French attitude, as M. Viviani is expected to advance it. Therefore if America wants her $3,000,000,000 then she must aid France in getting the money with which to pay it.

Republican senators, particularly those irreconcilables Johnson of California, and Borah of Idaho, are regarding the forthcoming visit of M. Viviani with interest. They believe the league to be "scrapped" in its entirely, lock, stock and barrel, and they view the ex-premier's mission with suspicion and distrust. They are merely biding their time to see what the ensuing weeks bring forth. Any attempt to flirt with the league will throw the whole matter into the senate arena **once more.** That much is certain.

New Attorney General

Harry M. Dougherty

HARRY M. DAUGHERTY of Ohio is attorney general in President Harding's cabinet. He is 61 years old and has received a university education. Daugherty practiced law in Ohio and served in the state legislature for five years. We was chairman of the state Republican executive committee in 1912 and was twice chairman of the state Republican central committee of Ohio. Daugherty was campaign manager for Harding at the Chicago convention.

DENIELO PASSES THRONE OF MONTENEGRO TO MICHAEL

Prince Danielo, heir apparent to the throne of Montenegro, has abdicated in favor of Prince Michael, son of the late Prince Mirko. Queen Milena, widow of King Nicholas, who died March 1, has assumed the regency provisionally. She has issued a proclamation to the Montenegrin people saying that she will defend the rights of Montenegro. She will take up her residence in San Remo.

Danielo was born in 1871 and is married to Princess Jutta, daughter of the Grand Duke of Mechlenburg Strelitz. Prince Michael was born in 1908 and is a nephew of Danielo.

This Paper Prints in This Issue—

STORY of demoralization which is sweeping the agricultural interests of this country to the verge of bankruptcy. The Harding administration is dissatisfied with the progress being made by the country in its return to normalcy and the President and his cabinet are considering the critical condition of the farming interests. The problem is to help the farmers without adding to burden consumer must bear.

B. M. Jewell, president of the railway employes department of the A. F. of L., has laid 11 basic principles satisfactory to labor and on which labor would be willing to negotiate agreements before the U. S. railroad labor board.

"Can a church prosper where back seats in a meeting house fill up first and leave the front seats empty?" asks A. P. Sandles, in his Rural Welfare department.

After a conference with Secretaries Hughes and Weeks, President Harding approved action of army and navy officers in refusing to permit American troops to participate in an Evacuation day parade at Boston of which Irish freedom advocates were in charge.

Even the United States government is going to feel the effects of the business depression for the 1920 income, corporation and excess profits tax returns show an enormous reduction below the revenue derived from the same source in 1919. It is estimated the returns will be a billion or over less than the year before.

Subject of the Sunday school lesson for Easter by William T. Ellis is, Conquering the Fear of Death.

Among the news of the week is the following: Mexican whisky smugglers, while attempting to cross the Rio Grande, fire on Americans; western lawmakers ask Harding for embargo on some farm commodities; Great Britain signs trade agreement with Russia; unemployment in the United States is not increasing; packing house workers favor strike if terms are not granted.

New story by Randall Parrish, called Comrades of Peril, begins on Page Three of this week's issue.

HARDING AIMS TO GIVE CROP PRICES BOOST

President Wilson's Veto of Fordney Tariff Bill Partly Blamed for Crisis That Faces Nation.

THE HARDING administration is dissatisfied with the progress the country is making in its return to "normalcy."

Concern is felt over the demoralization which is sweeping the agricultural interests of the country to the verge of bankruptcy. The President and his cabinet spent considerable time last week discussing the critical condition.

The farmers represent from 35 to 40 per cent of the population. Agriculture is the country's biggest single industry, both in numbers employed and in capital invested. Anything which seriously affects the buying power of this portion of the population inevitably will bring trouble to the rest of the people who make or deal in the things the farmer buys. There is no question as to the seriousness of the situation confronting the farmers. Their wool, grain, livestock, cotton and other products are bringing less than the cost of production and unless relief soon comes, it is feared in governmental circles that widespread distress will sweep over the whole community, destroy the productivity of American farms and throw the nation upon the mercy of foreign products, so far as its food supply is concerned.

In their efforts to find a solution, President Harding and his advisors are confronted by a peculiar economic puzzle. The problem is to find a remedy for agricultural depression which will raise farm prices to a fair figure without effecting an increase in the cost of living to consumers.

Living Cost Stays Up.

Such a thing looks like an impossibility at first glance, but in view of what has happened in domestic markets in the past few months, administration officials are not so sure something of the kind is impossible. They point to the fact that although grains, livestock, wool and other farm products are now selling in their raw state at pre-war levels, there has been only very moderate reductions in the retail prices of these products. The administration does not believe the consuming public is getting the benefit of the low prices at which farm products are being sold and if such is the case, there must be some way of assuring the farmers better prices for their raw products without appreciably increasing prices to consumers.

It seems to be plainly indicated that there is too big a spread between the prices farmers receive for wool, cotton, grain and livestock, and the prices that consumers of clothing and food have to pay. Taking up this slack is the big job to which the administration leaders are bending their efforts.

Secretary of Agriculture Wallace recently pointed out how the agricultural interests seem to be struggling along on different economic levels from the rest of the country.

Economic Future Menaced.

President Harding and his cabinet members believe that the country's economic future is gravely menaced by such lopsided values. Widespread farm bankruptcy, they fear, is approaching with inevitable nation-wide depression unless the inequalities are removed. As long as they remain uncorrected, it is felt that the rest of the nation's business cannot go much further in shaking off the depression from which there has been some relief in the last few months.

President Harding is known to regret the failure of the Fordney emergency tariff bill at the last session of Congress, due [illegible] President Wilson's veto [illegible]

Continued on Page Fifteen.

WORLD-HISTORY IN THE MAKING

ENGLISH and Irish are fighting and killing. It is the old program, followed by greater intensity during the last week-end.

Constantine, re-enthroned king of Greece, has issued a royal decree, calling three classes of soldiers to the colors. This means preparation for what is believed to be an offensive movement against the Turkish nationalists. Calling men to the colors is old monarchial stuff.

Trotzky and his army of Russians, Chinese and women have retaken the forts at Kronstadt. Sovietism thus gets another breathing spell. But this may be short, for peasants in parts of the stricken country are reported to be joining the revolutionists.

Germany will retain Upper Silesia under a plebiscite taken Sunday. The vote to stick by Germany was 700,000 ballots. To join Poland, 469,000 ballots. That's that.

King Constantine says it is necessary to make sacrifices to maintain peace in the near East. More old stuff, to inspire soldiers to rush into the jaws of death. Few kings make sacrifices.

Germany, to repeat the late Mark Hanna's borrowed poker phrase, is standing pat on the reparations argument with the allies. But the allies are also standing pat, and they seem to be holding the better hand.

The Way of the World.

The above paragraphs indicate what is going on. The way of the world has not changed greatly since the cataclysmic upheaval which covered a period of four years.

Nations are what the inhabitants thereof make them. God leaves men to work out their own salvation. He interferes only by working through their souls with the divine spirit. He set before them an exemplar of the right way in the Preacher who gave to the world the Sermon on the Mount.

The nearer men and nations keep to the teachings of the Son of God the closer they come to dealing justly. The farther they get from the Golden Rule the more hell they raise in the world.

President Harding has given voice to the hope that our own nation and its people pay more attention to Christian teachings. The suggestion is timely.

Busy in Washington.

There is much to do in Washington. The President and members of his cabinet are working diligently and laboriously to bring about order out of the things undone, things overdone, and some of the things done wrongly.

President Harding and his cabinet are not under union rules. They have no eight-hour day to circumscribe their usefulness. Let us commit a paradox: They are making an effort to go forward in getting back to "normalcy."

Up to this week domestic affairs, affairs of the United States, have been absorbing the attention of the new administration. The country is not fighting anybody or spoiling for a fight with anybody, but it is upset. In the midst of peace many things are topsy-turvy and must be readjusted.

Other nations and world affairs have not been given much attention. Now, however, it seems that international matters are brought to the President's attention. Former Premier Viviani of France is coming over to talk to the head of our government. He is due this week.

League Advocates Hope.

All Washington is talking about the visit of the French statesman. What influence will he have with Mr. Harding?

Advocates of the rejected League of Nations hope, that the former premier's visit may result in changing the mind of the President about some things—that he may agree to and recommend the ratification by the United States of the Versailles treaty, in a modified form.

Whatever the purpose of his visit the French gentleman will find Mr. Harding with a backbone. There was a time when there may have been some doubt of this in the minds of some people not acquainted with the man who is now the executive head of the government, but their eyes have been opened to the truth.

M. Viviani will meet an American who is for America first, and who will be governed by that principle in dealing with international problems.

This country's best interests will be conserved.

BILLION LESS REVENUE SEEN FOR COUNTRY

Income, Corporation and Excess Profits Returns for Last Year Take Heavy Drop.

Prospect that income, corporation and excess profit tax returns for 1920 will show an enormous reduction below the 1919 revenue derived by the government from this source is giving administration leaders much concern.

March 15 was the last day for the filing of income returns for the calendar year 1920 and most of the returns are still in the hands of local revenue collectors throughout the country. Their analysis by the treasury department is awaited eagerly by Republican leaders who have the job of taxation revision on their hands, for it is generally conceded that the government's receipts for the current year will be greatly reduced as a result of the general depression experienced in the last half of 1920.

It has been estimated that the returns from internal revenue taxation this year, based, of course, on last year's business, would fall at least $1,000,000,000 and perhaps $1,500,000,000, below the returns for 1920, based upon the business done in 1919. If this contraction of government revenue is as great as it is feared it will be the job of revising existing tax laws with the view of lowering taxes will be difficult.

Retrenchment Imperative.

Appropriations for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1921, have already been made and they are only slightly less than the appropriation for the current fiscal year. If government income from internal revenue sources is going to fall a billion or a billion and a half below the revenue for the present fiscal year, there is trouble in sight unless drastic retrenchment is practiced.

The few returns that have so far been received at the treasury department show that 1920 profits not only shrunk in all lines of business, but that in some lines no profits at all have been reported and therefore no taxes can be collected. Individual incomes taken by and large are much smaller than those reported last year. This is largely due to the fact that corporation earnings have been cut down, which in turn has also affected wage earners and salaried men to such an extent, it is estimated, as to make a considerable hole in the treasury receipts.

The prospect of reduced revenues not only complicates the task of taxation revision, but it likewise threatens to make it very difficult for the treasury to find the money with which to meet the government expense during the coming fiscal year. Even though congress finds new sources of revenue and enacts a new taxation law within the next few months, it is calculated by treasury experts that tax returns under the new enactment would not be made until sometime in 1922.

Tariff Relief Small.

New tariff duties higher than those now collected under the Underwood law are counted upon to afford additional revenue, but under present world trade conditions and with the exchange situation as it is at present, hope of relief from this source is rather slender. If world conditions were normal, passage of a new tariff law imposing heavy duties on imports could be counted upon to bring millions into the federal treasury. But conditions both at home and abroad are admittedly far from normal and it remains to be seen whether higher customs duties will relieve the federal treasury or whether they will simply stop the importation of foreign made goods.

Penrose a Patient Man; He Waited 8 Years to See the President

When Senator Penrose reached the White House to keep an appointment with President Harding, Secretary Christian said:

"Senator, would you mind waiting about 15 minutes?"

"What's 15 minutes to a man who's been waiting eight years to see the president?" responded Mr. Penrose.

"SLEEPING SICKNESS" MICROBE REPORTED FOUND

Dr. Kling, head of the state bacteriological laboratory at Stockholm, is reported to have discovered the microbe of "sleeping sickness" and to have established that the disease is infectious. Dr. Kling inoculated rabbits with brain matter from persons who died of the disease.

The Invasion of Germany

Photographs of the allied occupation of certain portions of Germany are arriving in this country. The upper picture shows an allied sentry guarding the bridge leading into Ruhrort. Note the wire entanglements placed at the end of the bridge to prevent escapes. The lower picture shows the advance guard of British tommies at the railroad station at Dusseldorf.

DEFENDS SHORT SKIRTS AND LIP PAINT FOR GIRLS

The extremes adopted by the modern girl should not be judged too harshly, said Mary Ross Potter, dean of women at Northwestern University, at a meeting of ministers' wives.

"There is nothing wrong with the girl of today because she uses a lipstick and a little rouge and a dab of powder," said Dean Potter. "Of course the dress of the girl of today—skirt to knees almost, flimsy stockings, flimsy everything—is not the dress of mother's generation. Nevertheless she is sweet and good and kind at heart. She has an independence that did not belong to her mother's day, but it is the spirit of the times. It is the result of the war."

HARDING BARS TROOPS FROM IRISH PARADE

President Backs Up Order of Navy and Army Heads in Refusing to Participate.

Action of army and navy officers in refusing to permit American troops to participate in an Evacuation Day parade at Boston of which Irish freedom advocates were in charge, was formally approved by President Harding after a conference with Secretary Hughes of the state department and Secretary Weeks of the war department.

The question of using federal troops in the parade came to the President's attention through a telegram from John F. Harrigan of Boston, state president of the American association for recognition of the Irish republic, who asked whether autocratic "rulings by the army and navy officers in command of the troops were to be backed up by the White House." In reply George B. Christian, Jr., the President's secretary, sent Mr. Harrigan the following telegram:

"Your telegram has been called to the attention of the President and he directs me to say in reply that army and navy commanders have authority to direct the forces under their command. The government raises no objection about the fitness of your celebration of Evacuation day, and the spirit of St. Patrick's day is felt throughout our country, but the naval and military forces of the nation can have no part in any demonstration which may be construed as influencing the foreign relations of the republic."

The message was sent after Secretary Hughes had been in conference with Mr. Harding for an hour. During the discussion, Secretary Weeks also was called in and the reports of the military and naval officers in direct charge of the troops at Boston are understood to have been reviewed in detail before a decision was reached.

ALLIES DELAY COLLECTION OF CLAIMS ON AUSTRIA

The reply of France, Italy, Japan and Great Britain to the appeal of Austria for assistance has been prepared. The four countries agree to postpone payment of the sums to which they are entitled under the treaty of St. Germain, and also payment of the capital and interest on advances made to Austria since the armistice in order to avert starvation in that country.

FOREIGN POLICY OF PRESIDENT WINS RESPECT

Coming Missions Show United States Can Join World Affairs on Own Terms.

Republican leaders are well pleased with the progress the Harding administration is making in formulating a new American foreign policy.

Although President Harding and Secretary of State Hughes have had but a little over a fortnight to evolve a program with reference to foreign relations, a surprising amount of progress has been made.

As so far demonstrated, the administration policy carries the atmosphere of a firm hand and a square deal and the feeling that American participation in European affairs is to be on America's own terms and not as suits the best interests of some foreign power.

President Harding and Secretary of State Hughes are proceeding together with the support and active assistance of the senate foreign relations committee. This contact and co-operation removes all question of the executive dealing with foreign questions without the consent and advice of his cabinet and the legislative branch of the government.

Respected Abroad.

In reality the administration has proceeded much further than appears on the surface in determining a course of conduct with reference to foreign affairs. It is likewise true that the administration is nearer to the accomplishment of definite aims than casual observers might imagine. As matters now stand it appears that the administration has a program and knows what it wants to do. It is not drifting.

The fact that France, England, Italy and other powers are preparing to send diplomatic missions to the United States to smooth the way for America's participation in world affairs practically on our own terms is evidence that the administration policy commands respect abroad as well as at home.

Viviani is coming from France. In this connection it is signifcant that during the campaign President Harding said he had had unofficial information that France was ready to revise the League covenant and to accept such changes as the United States might desire. The revision of the Mesopotamian and Pacific Island mandates is undoubtedly among the things the United States desires, and the fact that all the powers know this and are still heading diplomatic missions this way for parleys would seem to indicate that the United States can get what she wants by proceeding firmly along "America first" lines.

SHORT ENDS OF WORLD NEWS

CASES against all the Chicago White Sox baseball players indicted for the alleged throwing of the 1919 world series except Chick Gandil have been dropped by the state. The action was taken after Judge Dever had refused to grant a continuance of more than 60 days in the case.

Andrew Bonar Law of England, lord of the privy seal, resigned from the cabinet last week, giving ill health as the reason. London newspapers say a political crisis of the first magnitude has been created by his retirement. Bonar Law was the right hand man of Lloyd George and government leader in the house of commons.

J. Mayhew Wainwright, a New York lawyer, has been nominated by President Harding to be assistant secretary of war. Eliot Wadsworth of Boston has been named assistant secretary of the treasury in charge of foreign loans.

Eugene Meyer, Jr., of New York, who was managing director of the war finance corporation under President Wilson, has been nominated to be a director of the corporation for a term of four years.

Congress will be called into special congress on Monday, April 11. This announcement was made by Senator Lodge after a conference with President Harding.

The extra session of the senate which began March 4, ended shortly before noon on March 15. The senate adjourned sine die after confirming nominations.

An official decree issued in Spain provides for the appropriation of 500,000 pesos for the repatriation of Spaniards in the United States who are out of employment.

A peace treaty has been signed in Riga by the Russian soviet and Polish peace delegates.

Dr. Alfredo Zayas, former vice president of Cuba, and candidate of the Conservative-popular coalition party, made practically a clean sweep of the partial presidential elections held last week in several hundred precincts of various provinces in Cuba.

REPRESENTATIVES of common labor employed by the New York Central railroad rejected wage cuts proposed by the road and declined to join in a joint request to the railroad labor board to adjust the matter. Road officials then notified the men the reductions would become effective on April 1, in any event.

Robert Wood Bliss of New York, now chief of the state department division of western European affairs, has been nominated by President Harding to be third assistant secretary of state.

Bill appropriating $15,000 for the purchase of the tailor shop of Andrew Johnson, 17th president of the United States, has been passed by the Tennessee legislature and sent to the governor.

President Harding has asked Attorney General Daugherty to review the case of Eugene V. Debs, Socialist presidential candidate in 1920, who is serving a sentence under the espionage act in the Atlanta penitentiary.

Clara Smith Hamon was acquitted of the charge of having murdered Jake L. Hamon, Republican national committeeman from Oklahoma and millionaire railroad and oil promoter.

Facing more than 50 policemen, a bandit with a pistol in each hand was shot to death in Chicago after he had kept up a steady fight with them until his ammunition was exhausted.

Definite announcement that Former Attorney General Palmer's opinion permitting physicians to prescribe beer for medical purposes would stand unless Secretary Mellon should ask for a review, was made by Attorney General Daugherty.

King Constantine of Greece will soon go to the Smyrna front to take personal command of the Greek army that is fighting the Turkish Nationalists.

An official statement was issued at The Hague denying reports from Tokio that Holland favored internationalization of the Yap island cables and would oppose the island becoming the property of a single power.

VIRTUALLY demanding that Panama cease its quibbling with Costa Rica and accept the White decision in the boundary dispute, a new note was sent to the Panama government by Secretary Hughes of the state department. The note was sharper in tone than its predecessors.

Railroad unions throughout Mexico have been ordered to resume work immediately as a result of the agreement reached between national leaders of striking railway men and government officials.

The occupation area in Germany has been extended from Duisberg to stations all along the railroad running to within two and one-half miles of Essen.

The soviet government at Moscow has refused admittance to Russia of six men deported from the United States.

Lemuel Bolles, national adjutant of the American Legion, said recently that alleged "discrimination against postal employes because they served their country during the war" will be protested.

Any attempts to reduce coal miners' wages will be resisted, John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, says. It was said the miners have signed agreements until March 21, 1922.

Twenty-nine persons were killed in the bloodiest week-end in Ireland since the present "campaign" began. It is probable it was much higher as both sides concealed their casualties.

Germany will retain Upper Silesia as Monday's dispatches show the plebiscite throughout Upper Silesia on Sunday resulted in the Germans polling 700,000 ballots and the Polish 469,000 ballots.

Large numbers of anti-Bolshevik insurgents were compelled to flee into Finland after having been defeated by Red troops at the fortress of Kronstadt. Both the town and the forts surrounding Kronstadt are in the hands of the Reds.

Chief of Police O'Brien of St. Louis issued an order prohibiting street sales of the Dearborn Independent, Henry Ford's paper.

Duchess Does Not Like Her Suitor's Cave Man Antics

The engagement of the Duc de Crussol and the Duchess de Chaulnes, daughter of the late Theodore P. Shonts of New York, has been broken off because of the "cave man wooing tactics" of the ardent young suitor, it has been learned.

The young nobleman wanted the marriage to take place at once and refused to hear any arguments in favor of a postponement. The duchess and her mother wanted the ceremony postponed for several months in order that preparations might be made for an elaborate event.

The insistence of the duke is said to have caused a scene at the palace of the duchess at Lyons. Angered by the arguments of his fiance, the duke motored to Monte Carlo vowing he would forget everything. It was reported from Monte Carlo that the duke has succeeded admirably in wiping out the sad memory of his blasted romance. He is a familiar figure at the Casino and is playing a prominent part at the dances of the younger nobility.

There are reports that the duke has so far overcome the tragic memory that he has been making mad love to a Spanish beauty, accompanying her to dances and the tennis courts.

Friends of the duke are trying to patch up the affair between him and the Duchess de Chaulnes and they insist his affair with the Spanish beauty is only temporary infatuation such as he once had for Gaby Deslys when he followed her to the United States.

Drops Packers' Case

Federal Judge Garvin in Brooklyn formally dismissed indictments charging profiteering, returned under the Lever act against the "Big Five" meat packers—Armour & Co., Swift & Co., Morris & Co., Wilson & Co. and the Cudahy Packing Co. Dismissal followed the action of the supreme court in holding the Lever act in part

COMRADES OF PERIL

By Randall Parrish

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CHAPTER I.

Return of the Wanderer.

Shelby, alone in the buckboard, drove to the summit of the ridge, halting the broncs, as his eyes swept over the scene outspread below. The animals, their dusty sides streaked with sweat, stopped willingly after their sixty-mile trip from the Cottonwood. Half-broken, they had been unruly enough at the start, but now only the buckskin turned an ugly, blood-stained eye back at the unconscious driver. Below was a deep, narrow valley, in the midst of which Ponca spread out along the bank of the creek that gave the town its name. To Shelby, wearied with the dull plains, here was a scene of beauty, and his appreciative gaze wandered slowly from the scattered outlines of the sprawling village to the endless curving of the silvery stream, bordered by green foliage, and shadowed by the high brown hills on either side.

Once he glanced about over the trail along which he had come, recalling to memory those desolate leagues of prairie, burned by the summer sun, undulating slightly, yet retaining all the aspects of a desert land. He could perceive the faint ribbon of a trail leading toward his lonely ranch on the Cottonwood, zigzagging away off there across the landscape almost to the horizon. God! how tiresome, dirty and desolate it had been! His mind recalled those long miles of utter waste he had driven over, with head bowed, breathing the stifling dust. He was powdered with it still from head to foot, and his lips were caked and dry. It was like a journey through the shadow of death.

But now, just beyond there, was life, fresh, luxuriant, sweet; running water, luscious green grass, and above all, that which he craved most, human companionship. To be sure he knew Ponca of old, and possessed no illusions. He could recognize, even from where he was, the cheap buildings ranging along the main street, the ornate front of Dan McCarthy's saloon, the huge barn of the dance hall opposite, the blacksmith shop, the overshadowing walls of the big general store, and yet farther along the ramshackle hotel. Back of these more pretentious structures—themselves mere temporary erections of wood and tin—extended a strange mass of shacks in which men lived, some scarcely more than extended boxes, others built of roughly hewn logs, while here and there the dirty flap of a tent waved dejectedly in the wind, the whole indiscriminate litter extending along the meanderings of the creek; or stretching out in ragged irregularity across the flat valley. Here and there the bright sunshine glittered on piles of old tin cans, or reflected a golden gleam over some heap of rubbish. Ugly, dirty, unkempt, Ponca made no pretense to either cleanliness, or respectability; it possessed no pride, no hope of a future. It seemed to recognize its destiny, and be content, a mere mushroom town of the frontier, an adjunct of the cattle trade, permitted to flourish today, but as certainly doomed to perish tomorrow.

The man who sat there on the ridge gazing down, the reins held idly in his hand, his eyes following the winding of the valley, was a perfectly natural part of the picture—he belonged. Beneath the tan and dust was a smoothly shaven face, the face of twenty-five, or twenty-six, the features strong, nose somewhat prominent, lips firm and full, with dark gray eyes shadowed by heavy lashes. His dress was the rough garb of the frontier, powdered white, his powerful shoulders clearly outlined beneath a shirt, open at the throat, giving glimpse of a muscular neck. The inevitable "45" swung carelessly at his hip, the belt revealing the slimness of his waist, while the stiff uprightness with which he sat, spoke of a soldier's training. In truth, he appeared all man, a certain reckless gayety about him not to be mistaken, yet as evidently not to be lightly taken advantage of.

His glance had settled on the ragged town, a rather whimsical gleam in his eyes beneath the shadow of the lowered hat brim.

"It certainly beats hell," he muttered, unconsciously aloud, "that a man should dream about visiting a dump like this. Here I've been thinking about it for six months, and, now I'm here, damned if I wouldn't turn 'round, an' drive back, only I got to stock up. Shows what sort o' place Cottonwood is to make a fellow homesick for Ponca. But then again it ain't that exactly, I reckon, but just the cussed loneliness of it; what I want is just somebody to talk to again, and one hell of a high time to think over. Then, maybe, I can go back and settle down for another long spell. Town looks kinder dead; no cattle in the corrals. Hell, what's the difference? There'll be some of the old bunch hangin' 'round, an' we'll make things hum for awhile. Come, broncs, jog along! let's show Ponca we're a live outfit!"

He struck the buckskin with the end of a rein, and the animal leaped forward, viciously lashing out with both heels, awakening the roan likewise into sudden activity. Shelby laughed, instantly restored to reckless good humor, the reins tightening in one hand, while, with the other, he plied the lash, the startled team plunging on a swift run down the hill, the buckboard surging madly after. It was a rough, curving descent, the trail in places barely wide enough for the wheels, but the driver never lost control, guiding the half-crazed broncos with expert hand, until they finally swung about the edge of a great rock at the bottom, and went charging at full gallop into the main street. To better express the exuberance of his feelings at this return to civilization, and announce his arrival, Shelby whipped out his gun, and began shattering the atmosphere, driving the animals frantic as the sharp reports rang out over their backs.

But if any sensation was expected, it signally failed to materialize. Ponca remained deserted, and unimpressed. Here and there a curious head protruded from some shack, and a few stray dogs hastily removed themselves from the highway, but otherwise there was no demonstration. Long experience had either rendered the inhabitants indifferent to such a display, or else the town had gone utterly dead. The silence and desolation caused Shelby to utter an oath, and suddenly swing his team up to a hitching rack in front of McCarthy's saloon, the door of which stood invitingly open. An instant the perplexed driver sat there, slipping his emptied gun back into its holster, and staring grimly about from end to end of the deserted street.

"What the hell!" he ejaculated at last, "is up anyhow? Is this a graveyard I've got into? Lord, it can't be all the boys have got out; but something is sure dead wrong. Stand still, you buckskin devil! Well, Mac's open anyhow. I'll go in, and find out."

He sprang out over the wheel, stiffened from the long ride, yet standing erect nevertheless, and not venturing to release his grip on the reins until both broncos were securely anchored with stout lariats to the wooden rail. He patted the buckskin, grinning good-humoredly at the ugly bloodshot eyes, and the vicious nip of bared teeth, and then strode up the saloon steps, and in through the open door. He had expected a welcome, and this strange lack of interest on the part of the citizens of Ponca had already considerably chilled his enthusiasm. He had a sense of being wronged, aggrieved, almost insulted, and desired to discover someone upon whom to vent his feelings. But, once inside, he stopped, staring about in even deeper perplexity. The big saloon was absolutely empty of patrons—the tables were unoccupied; no one was lined up in front of the long bar, and no sound of voices or of poker chips came down from the room above. The place seemed like a huge grave, and, for a brief moment, he even failed to perceive its only occupant—a red-mustached bartender in front of the mirror, industriously rubbing the immaculate glass. Thoroughly angered by this time, Shelby advanced, his footsteps muffled by the sawdust on the floor.

"What the hell is the matter with this dump?" he demanded savagely, his fist thumping the bar. "Oh, so it's you, is it, Moran? Well, are you all that's left in Ponca?"

The red-mustached one turned indifferently, exhibiting a lack of interest which was maddening, yet managed to extend a rather limp hand in fraternal greeting.

"That's 'bout the size of it, Tom," he admitted gravely. "Where yer been the last six months?"

"Over on the Cottonwood, ranching. Some nice joke blowing in here after sixty miles o' desert trail an' hittin' a dead one like this. Say, I ain't seen nothin' but dogs since I struck this valley. What's up? Ponca gone on the bum?"

"Hell, no; she's all right mostly. Be all right tomorrow, I reckon, fer Hitchock's outfit's comin' in with a bunch o' steers. What'll yer drink?"

"Best yer've got, o' course. That looks a bit like old times, an' tastes like it. Take a snort with me, Moran. I come in principally to blow myself, an' feel like I'd struck a cemetery. Where's Mac, an' all the boys, anyhow?"

Moran brightened up a little under the influence of the liquor, and leaned forward across the bar. Now that he had a chance he seemed glad enough to talk, although still visibly oppressed with a peculiar melancholy.

"I reckon it did seem sorter dull to yer, Tom, adrivin' in that way, expectin' naturally everything would be wide open, like it was when yer went away. That was sure a hell of a night, an' I reckon yer've thought it over many a time out there in them hills. So yer' ranching, hey? Fer yerself?"

"Sure. I got a free range, and plenty o' water."

"Runnin' much of a bunch yet?"

"No, not yet; just fairly started, but enough so I've got to pick up some sorter cow-hand to go along back with me. I can't quite make it alone any longer, an' then it's pretty darn lonely out there—nothin' but steers and coyotes—there not bein' another ranch in thirty miles o' my shack. Do yer know o' anybody wants a job?"

"Well, I dunno; there was a feller drifted in yere yesterday off the Diamond L—fired, I reckon. He's over in the jug now, fer tankin' up too free, an' tryin' to bean the marshal. Maybe he'd take a chance when he gits sober. I reckon you could handle the cuss if anyone could. Say, Tom, I'm damned glad yer gittin' 'long so well. Dan'l be mighty gald ter see yer."

"Where is Dan?"

"Out ter the funeral; that's what's the matter with this damn town. The whole kit and caboodle's gone across the creek to help plant old Dad Calkins. Hell, I'd a bin there myself, only Dan made me stay with the bar; said he'd be damned if the saloon would shut up; it hadn't been since it was opened an' he didn't even have no key. So, of course, I was the goat. Biggest damn funeral ever pulled off in this town."

"Whose was it, did you say?"

"Dad Calkins; you remember Old Dad."

"No, can't say I do; what was he? a gambler?"

"Kind of a tin-horn; soused most o' the time but still everybody liked him; pretended ter be a blacksmith when he first come, an' put up a shack down there next the hotel. Never worked mor'n three days to my knowledge since—just naturally bummed 'round, but he was a hell of a good story-teller, an' the boys cottoned to him. Reckon the old cuss ain't paid fer a drink himself in three years, but allers managed to keep tanked. Sure yer must have knowed him."

Shelby shook his head.

"You got too many of that particular kind around, Moran, for me to pick them out. What did he die from?"

"Shot himself, I reckon. Didn't seem like a feller that would, but he was picked up over back o' the dance hall, with a bullet in his nut, an' a gun in his hand. The girl was huntin' for him, 'cause he didn't come home, an' so Dan he went along with her. The two of 'em found him out there."

"What girl?"

"Daughter, I s'pose. She's been yere kinder keepin' house ever since I first knew the cuss. Scarcely ever saw her though, fer she stuck mighty close to the shack. I reckon it was because o' her the boys chipped in ter give Old Dad such a hell o' a send-off—she being about the only decent female in town."

"How old is she?"

"I ain't no judge o' females' ages, if yer ask me, but maybe sixteen or seventeen. Quite a wisp of a gurl first I saw her, but she don't make up with nobody; sorter sullen-like, an' just stays ter home all the time. Beats hell yer don't remember Ol' Dad; he was hangin' 'round yere most o' the time—old party, with white whiskers an' a broken nose."

"Likely enough I'd remember him if I'd see the fellow," admitted Shelby indifferently. "Where'd you say all this rumpus was goin' on?"

"Over cross the creek, beyond that bunch o' willows. You know where the graveyard is. Goin' ter be some obsequies, you bet. Dan he went clear to Buffalo Gap fer ter git a preacher ter do the thing up swell. Hell, yer oughter see the duffer he brought back with him—he's a J. P. now, but he used ter be a sky pilot; must weigh round three hundred, an' has a face on him that would stop a clock; but the boys say he's a hum-dinger ter sling words. What's the matter with yer goin' over there, Tom, an' takin' the show in? 'Tain't too late yet an' they was goin' ter open the coffin the last thing. Dan'll be mighty pleased ter see yer horn in."

Shelby helped himself to another drink, and gazed disconsolately about the big, desolated room. Even Moran's description of the festivities beyond the creek did not succeed in awakening his enthusiasm noticeably. Ponca had failed his expectations of welcome, and he still resented it; however, it might prove more entertaining over there with the mourners than to remain here with the lugubrious Moran. He rolled a cigaret expertly, and announced a decision.

"I reckon I'll turn the broncs into Davis' corral, an' then amble along," he said slowly. "Even a funeral's better than this dump today."

CHAPTER II.

The Funeral of Old Dad Calkins.

Shelby, still bitterly nursing his disappointment, and more or less disturbed mentally by the antics of the buckskin, succeeded in stripping the harness from both animals, and turning them loose behind the high fence. This operation was conducted with some considerable profanity, and he was still cussing inwardly, as he struck off on foot down the trail leading toward the ford over the creek. What in Sam Hill did he care anyway for this old reprobate of a Dad Calkins, or that fat preacher from Buffalo Gap? What did they want to pull off this fool stunt for on the very day he arrived to turn loose, and make Ponca sit up and take notice? He'd been dreaming of the glories of this day of his return for six weary months out there in the hills, and now he'd run headfirst into this measly old funeral. It was enough to make a man swear. Not a cussed thing left in town but a few cur dogs, and Moran with a face on him like a tombstone; not even a fight, or a stiff game of poker; even the whisky tasted queer—and the only entertainment offered him was the planting of an old soak. He kicked at a pile of tin cans viciously, and strode on, grumbling at his luck, stopping long enough on the edge of the creek to roll and light another cigaret.

He had waded the shallow waters, and reached the edge of the willows before his eyes distinguished the crowd gathered in the open space beyond. Somehow the sight served to change his mood of surly discontent into that of slightly awakening interest. It was surely some funeral; there was no doubt of that. A mass of men stood there, bareheaded in the sunshine, and beyond them, on a little knoll, a small bunch of women were crowded together, girls from the dance hall mostly, judging from their clothes and faces, although one or two older women were at the farther end. The corpse must have been brought out from town in a wagon, drawn by four mules, all decked with black streamers, which now stood decorously at one side, the box containing the remains having been removed, and deposited beside the grave during the exercises. These were evidently already drawing to a close, for Shelby caught a glimpse of the fat expreacher, elevated on a box, and his ears caught the sonorous words of exhortation with which he ended his sermon. There followed a faint applause, checked, instantly by McCarthy, who politely requested the bunch to stop making damned fools of themselves, and immediately announced that the Ponca male quartet would sing Onward, Christian Soldiers, after which those who desired would be given the opportunity to view for the last time the features of the departed. Silence ensued, except for the uneasy shuffling of feet, and the buzz of whispering voices, while the quartet clambered over the wheels into the wagon-box, and painfully prepared to make their contribution to the festivities.

Shelby recognized three of the vocalists, and braced himself for the worst—Bill Cowan, one of McCarthy's bartenders, the agent at the stage office, and Jim Logan, foreman of the Double Star. The fourth was a young fellow with a tousled head, evidently unbrushed for weeks, but possessing a voice like an Atlantic foghorn. As the last dulcet strains rolled away, McCarthy, as though anxious to preserve the lives of the singers by quick action, pushed his way once again to the front.

"Now you bucks," he roared out tersely, "line up along them willows. I'll go first with the daughter as chief mourners, an' then the females will fall in behind. After that the rest of yer can mosey along. We're goin' ter do this up in some style, an' it ain't just goin' ter be showin' proper respect fer the dead, but we're agoin' ter remember the orphaned and the fatherless. That's the way Ponca does business. Now chip in, gents; there's a box there at the head of the corpse, an' after yer've had a squint at Ol' Dad cough up something fer the gurl. I reckon there ain't no tinhorns in this outfit, but just the same I'm agoin' ter stand there, an' if any of yer don't play square there's sure goin 'ter be hell to pay. Hey, you—Ramsay! git back inter line yere, pronto! This is no free show. Say, Jack, you an' Calloway ride herd on these steers, while I round up them heifers; the whole damn outfit will be millin' 'fore we git their coin."

Shelby dropped into place behind the stage agent, who recognized the newcomer with a hard handgrip, and grin of welcome.

"Just blow in? We're givin' Old Calkins the time o' his career; owed me a hundred, but what the hell do I care! Know the ol' cuss?"

"No; just dropped around fer to pass away the time. Some spouter that fat preacher."

"Ain't he though!" admiringly. "He sure shot off some language I never did hear before. Yer heard our quartet, I reckon?"

"Heard it! Not being altogether deaf, I did. Say, Mike, who was that sweet singer in Israel who performed the basso-profundo?"

"Him! I don't just know the name of the gazabo; all I ever heard him called was 'Kid.' He blew in from the Diamond L an' got a bit frisky last night, and was locked up in the jug to sober off. That's why his hair is so damned mussed, I reckon; hadn't had no chance to brush it. He's got some voice, that bird."

"I should say so; must have been exercising it on the range. Hullo, the procession is about to start—so that's Old Calkins girl, is it?"

The stage agent nodded.

"Yep; not so darned much to look at either. I don't reckon I've seen her afore fer a year. This yere will be a bit tough on her, but we're sure plantin' the old cuss right."

To Be Continued.

DRYS IN CONGRESS TO TIGHTEN UP LAW

Reports that prohibition leaders in congress were planning to tighten up the Volstead law have opened a regular scramble for assignments on the house judiciary committee, which will frame the amended law if one is to be introduced at the extra session next month.

The committee heretofore has consisted of 21 members, 13 Republicans and eight Democrats. The new lineup, because of the increased Republican majority, will be 15 Republicans and six Democrats.

Friends of Chairman Volstead declared that the movement recently started in some quarters to oust him from leadership had about petered out. The naming of committee chairmen is in the hands of the committee on committees which is expected to hold its old rule by which top place goes according to seniority rank. Several members of the judiciary committee, who will not be in the next congress, voted against the Volstead law, but they did not seek re-election. Of the Republican members who supported the enforcement act one died and the other was defeated for renomination in the primary.

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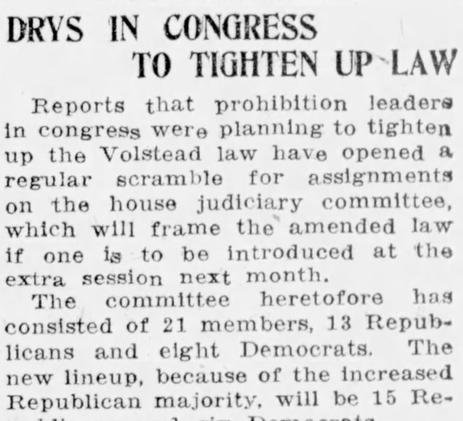

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THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 1921.

Reconstruction is necessarily slower than destruction.

Why doesn't Germany pawn the watch on the Rhine?

Before there can be a general readjustment in this country there must be individual readjustment in the minds and hearts of the people.

Lima Beane says he doesn't look for the low cost of high living to succeed the high cost of low living.

When Bolshevism abolished money and food it made a fatal mistake by not also abolishing the human stomach.

If beer gets back as a medicine nothing short of frequent overdoses will cure the sick men.

Fate has a way of balancing the books. The world was unprepared for war when Germany opened the assault. The end found Germany unprepared for defeat.

When one man out of a hundred gets more than justice ninety-nine get less.

Men who pay excess profits taxes get relief by sitting on the consumer's stomach, but the process isn't restful to the consumer.

If a man thinks until his head aches he isn't likely to talk until his jaw aches.

Strange thing about the fellow who blows his own horn is that he expects an encore.

There'll be quite a crash if the Monroe doctrine ever collides with the League of Nations.

"A navy fit to fight," is Secretary Denby's slogan. Lived up to it may, in many cases, obviate the necessity of fighting.

If there is to be more White House picketing one White House dog may not be enough.

In many inconspicuous cases matrimony is a success. In others it is an entangling alliance.

One doesn't hear much about President Ebert of Germany until it's time for him to put on a sobbing act for sympathy.

If we are too careful to let well enough alone, well enough may backslide.

From thirty to forty billion dollars is the cost of the war to the United States. This is the insurance policy Uncle Sam invested in for the benefit of posterity. It won't hurt posterity to pay some of it.

In the case of strikes, like any other sickness, prevention is better than cure.

Most of the fellows who carry concealed weapons do it for offensive purposes.

Staying on her own side of the river is considered good behavior for Mexico.

To turn the head of one man girls dress in a way to make all men turn their heads.

The straight and narrow path is a one-way thoroughfare.

Somebody has figured that a farmer's wife earns $4,004 a year. But not until she gets it will the town wife urge her husband to take up farm life.

American-born men should be thankful that their ancestors came to this country before the rush.

It is another phase of the war Germany is now fighting. And again, so far as this country is concerned, she is expecting too much from her propagandists.

Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness calls for considerable dodging at the street crossings.

Licking the Bolshevik would reconcile many people to war until further notice.

Human nature is all the same under the skin, but it is the surface with which we come in contact.

Listening Post

No one can listen to the voices of the day without a feeling that this is the heyday of German Junker propaganda.

The air is full of poisonous gases. There is a definite effort by certain publications, apparently, to create the impression that the war was somehow a failure, that for some reason justice did not triumph.

For a long time the chief effort of the propagandists seemed to be to create a new breach of ill-feeling between Great Britain and the United States. Since then the chief attack has been made upon France, which is our oldest friend among the nations of the earth, and the nearest enemy of Prussia.

But there is not a sound American heart which does not realize that these propagandists will not have the whole field to themselves. There is in America an organization of home growth and home development, which has proved more aggressive and more vigilant than any foreign propagandists. We can see demonstrated before the world that in the boys who went overseas patriotism was no mere wartime enthusiasm, but an abiding passion, a whole-hearted determination.

The American Legion has been criticized for some activities by some branches. In general the complaints are made that the service men are a little too quick on the trigger, a little too rushing in the charge. But we need determination and decision and driving force in the army of war, and we must applaud the same qualities in a civilian host in time of peace. As its determination becomes known, as its sleepless vigilance is more and more realized, the tense need of fiery action will grow less. The time will come when whoever opens fire with any anti-American propaganda of any kind will realize that he will rouse the Boys of '17, and there are few resident enemies of this nation so bold as to challenge that host.

Therefore, while anyone can discern the anti-allied propaganda in many forms, and can almost see the copperhead sneer behind some current writings, we can treat these as we treated the Prussians and Austrians—leave them to the Legion.

Back to Nature

One of civilized man's most beloved opinions is that there is close at hand a wonderful doorway always on the latch which will lead him into the Elysian fields of health and happiness, awaiting only the turn of his wrist to open. The door is usually labeled "Back to Nature," though it is every one's privilege to put up his own placard.

Now along comes a scientist and says this idea is false. Back to Nature you cannot go, he says. You are Nature's insurgent son and you have taken upon yourself the fight, ages old, of your species against Nature. Backward to Nature the way is closed. Forward you must march until you have conquered Nature by learning all her secrets, else you and your kind will perish. It is war to the death. Grasp the secrets of life and use them to perpetuate your kind or die.

The period of man's insurgency began, says this scientist, when man, imitating the Titans' son, Prometheus, seized the divine fire of intellect and was no longer content with the process provided by Nature which is still used by animals and is called instinct. From that moment man began to throw monkey-wrenches into the machinery of the world. The beautiful balance of things was upset.

There is no disease in Nature. It was man's invention when he upset the great scheme of things here and there. Our chestnut trees throve until man brought things from foreign lands where they were harmless and found them engines of destruction. No, continues the scientist, it is too late to go back and patch up a truce. Man cannot surrender his mind. Carry on is the cry, carry on by devoting our great resources to discovering more secrets still than the thousands we have wrested from sea, earth and sky, until we shall be able to win freedom from Nature by our own devices, just as we learned to correct some of our own terrible blunders, such as tuberculosis.

It is a strange theory, with material for endless thought, but with one serious lack. Whence came that power of the intellect that distinguishes us from beasts? It is no material thing, but the attribute of a sublime power of which Nature alone cannot be the all. The part cannot be greater than its whole. Science, which is only the study of Nature given a name, has worked great wonders, but it has handicapped itself by too often overlooking that great spiritual element which we call God.

The Mud Guards

An automobile fender is more than just something to fend things off. It is something to run into, to twist and cripple, to mark with a chronology of accidents and ruthlessness and carelessness and devil-may-care. It bears scars honorable and dishonorable. It receives the mud, the stinging gravel, the tar and filth of the world's highway. Its usefulness lies in being a sort of goat for the mechanism of transportation.

An old and weathered citizen was brought into court the other day upon charges of non-support filed by his family. He had only one thing to say, and this he said sullenly:

"I am tired of being the mud-guard for a bunch of strapping boys and girls."

The court had the wisdom of deep experience. It dismissed the defendant. It knew what human mud-guards are. It knew that great numbers of people upon this earth, men and women, are destined to act as fenders for their fellow-beings. They take the blows of the selfish and the reckless. Their souls are scarred with the wounds of the hard and the indifferent. Upon them drives the stinging gravel. Held in contempt, beat upon, knocked about, jammed and crowded and elbowed and kicked and punched and whacked, they yet serve a great purpose in life. They are its mud-guards, its fenders, its goat.

Once in a great while one of them rebels. The spirit of liberty sometimes flames in the most lowly. But destiny keeps tight grip upon the class. Take away all the mud-guards of human life and social organization collapses.

Will Hays, Humanizer

Will Hays says that the government is going to cease to regard the great army of postal employes as mere cogs in a hard, cold machine. Henceforth, he says, the government will understand and appreciate its clerks and carriers and treat them as actually of flesh and blood. The postoffice needs humanizing along with reorganizing. Will Hays' gift at organization is not to be questioned after the November totals. As a humanizer, he is still to be completely tested. But we predict he will succeed. For he will have the help of the legions of postal employes, as eager for the new order of things as they are conscious of its need.

Tin Can Wives

Mrs. Mary A. Wilcox was once cook for Queen Victoria. More recently she was cooking instructor in the United States Navy School of Cooking. To Mrs. Wilson the public is indebted for the new descriptive phrase, "tin can wives."

The tin can wife, according to Mrs. Wilson, is the chief menace of the American home. Unprepared by experience previous to marriage for the duties of cooking food, she takes refuge from her incompetency in canned goods, and, says Mrs. Wilson, from the experience of a life of cooking, then the trouble begins.

"Many a domestic establishment would have been steered off the rocks by a home-made sponge cake or a neat omelet," says the wise Mrs. Wilson. "Every young wife should invite her husband into the kitchen twice a week to help her cook."

This is sound philosophy. No man is stronger than his stomach, no home better than its kitchen. The sane kitchen is the sane home. Applying a business instance to the situation, the firm whose general manager knew nothing whatever about the production end of the business would be steering a dangerous course, and the kitchen is perhaps the chief center of production for that great commodity of the home, happiness and health.

Owen Meredith spoke truly, though he spoke years ago:

We may live without poetry, music and art;
We may live without conscience and live without heart;
We may live without friends; we may live without books;
But civilized man cannot live without cooks.

The Public's Business

President Harding's experience, first as editor and publisher and for nearly 20 years past as state senator, lieutenant governor and United States senator, has taught him the value of taking the public into confidence.

Dispatches from Washington say that the President will hold frequent conferences with the newspaper correspondents. He will meet them at least weekly and probably twice a week.

A general manager of a large business, promoting young men to a position of responsibility, warned: "Young men, I expect you are going to make some mistakes, but don't make too many."

Neither the ripe experience of President Harding nor the wisdom of his cabinet counsellors can prevent some administration mistakes. The people will expect mistakes—not too many—but they will forgive, and jets of their affection for the President will be the warmer if his general policy of frank honesty is continued.

Germans are now sobbing, "Right is being trodden by might." They should remember the days when they were grinding Belgium under their heels and chanting in their thick Teuton tongue that might was right.

SPRING

BY WALT MASON.

NOW comes the end, my fellowmen, of winter, stern and bitter; the spring is coming once again, and merry birds will twitter, and joy will permeate each hen and cow and human critter. The winter has been mild and kind, no tempests raged severely, the elements all seemed inclined to treat us fair, or nearly; the frost king and his frigid kind were kept in limits, clearly. And so we have no kick to make about the season going, but oh, our buzzums fairly ache to see the green things growing, to skirmish with a spade or rake, or do some fancy hoing! The winter makes us feel our years, and fills our hearts with sorrow, and though a balmy day appears small comfort can we borrow, for we are always filled with fears of what may come tomorrow. "The northern sky grows grim and gray," we sigh with grime foreboding, "and though the sun's on deck today, we have a fear corroding that Boreas will come our way, his tinhorn goods unloading." To all such fears spring gives release, the fears that used to bore us; we do not summon the police when clouds assemble o'er us; spring fills our jaded souls with peace, and places hope before us.

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ABE MARTIN

Mrs. Tipton Bud has sold her goldfish as they kept her tied down.

Lemuel Mopps is in from th' poor house, t'day, t' straighten out his income tax.

VARIETIES

The 70-hour week is common in Japan.

Without wasps fig trees would not produce fruit.

An acre will produce about 6,000 pounds of indigo.

The cucumber originally was a tropical vegetable.

Seven daily papers in Louisiana are edited by women.

Among the coins of India is one which is square in shape.

The exclusive food of the harpy eagle of Brazil is monkeys.

Six hundred women were executed in France for witchcraft in 1609.

Milk worth $72,000,000 was shipped out of the United States in 1918.

Holyoke, Mass., produces some of the purest silk cloth in the world.

Amethysts and jet are the two most widely-used mourning stones.

The oldest known English picture is one of Chaucer painted in 1389.

Less than one-third of the world's population use bread as a daily food.

The women of Lapland average only four feet, nine inches in height.

Egypt is said to have made a billion dollars out of recent cotton deals.

Nearly half the shell-torn land in the Somme area is already being cultivated.

It is proposed to adopt the airplane to promote discoveries in darkest Africa.

The refuse from the streets of Rome and other Italian cities is sold by auction.

The women in ancient Crete wore flounced dresses more than 4,000 years ago.

The Baltic sea has an average of one shipwreck every day throughout the entire year.

At the time of its birth the giraffe measures six feet from its hoofs to the top of its head.

One of the greatest dykes in Holland is 40 miles in length, and has been holding back the water for seven centuries.

The fossil coal to a depth of more than a mile would last 6,000 years at the present rate of consumption, if it were all recoverable.

The number of women employed in shops and factories in the Argentine Republic has been doubled within the last five years.

The walrus supplies about 1,500 pounds of meat, 1,000 pounds of oil and 500 pounds of leather, and the whitewhale supplies much more.

Three hundred and forty-three death sentences were carried out in the British army during the war. Of these, 266 were cases of desertion.

Canada is to have a $5,000,000 match factory which will be controlled by four of the biggest match manufacturing firms in Great Britain.

General Nicolajeff, who commanded the Russian troops in France during the war, now drives a motor truck for a wholesale firm in Paris.

A teacher of singing declares that a two months' course of proper breathing exercise should increase the circumference of the chest two or three inches.

The stick insect of Borneo is the largest insect known. Specimens 13 inches in length have been captured. The insect exactly resembles a piece of rough stick.

Ancient seers taught the people of Persia that amber was the concentration of the tears of birds and the belief is prevalent in many parts of that country now.

The newest vault protection devices for banks and such institutions has an automatic door closer, which will trap thieves who might gain access to these storage places.

A Chinese university has collected 170 varieties of silk worm eggs, for use in connection with a course in sericulture. It is believed to be the most complete collection ever made.

The largest motor boat afloat, according to the Scientific American, is the Africa, 445 feet long, 66 feet beam, and with 14,000 tons carrying capacity. She is driven by Diesel engines of 4,500 horsepower.

The women pearl fishers of Japan commence their work at the age of 14, and are in the water almost all the year round, except in the coldest season from the end of December to the beginning of February.

British subjects who traveled at their own expense from the United States or other parts of the world to join their country's military forces during the war with Germany are entitled to receive refunds of their passage money.

It has been estimated that there are 8,000,000 acres of peat in the United States available for fuel and industrial purposes. It is asserted that with the use of up-to-date machinery the peat can be prepared for the market at a cost of $1 a ton.

ROGER BACON, MEDIEVAL MONK, WAS SEVEN CENTURIES AHEAD OF HIS AGE

ONE often hears it said of some enterprising visionary or futile man of genius that "he is a generation ahead of his time," but Roger Bacon, the scientific wizard of the Dark Ages, may be said to have been seven hundred years ahead of his time, for many of his predictions, uttered not in the spirit of prophesy, but as purely scientific deductions, were only fulfilled in the nineteenth century. From the darkest period of the world's history the memory of this remarkable old monk—the most original thinker of his time—is revived by the recent announcement of Dr. Wilfred N. De Voynich, bibliophile and manuscript collector, that Prof. William Romaine Newbold of the University of Pennsylvania has succeeded, after years of study, in deciphering the code in which Bacon concealed many of his important scientific discoveries, and that they involve revelations far in advance of twentieth century science. Whatever the purport of the discoveries which Dr. De Voynich promises to make public, they will be but additional evidence of a fact already acknowledged by scientists—that Roger Bacon contributed more, as an individual investigator to the scientific discoveries that influenced the currents of civilization in the generation succeeding him than any man of his time.

In his own day he was popularly supposed to be skilled in the "black magic" and suffered imprisonment for some of his theories—whether for doctrinal ones or scientific ones is not certain, for he seems to have been sound enough in his religious beliefs and avowed that theology was the mother of all sciences and their chief inspiration the Scriptures. Yet he was the father of experimental science and the real originator of the inductive methods formulated into a science three centuries later by his namesake, Francis Bacon. The doctrines he laid down in this field have a very modern sound. "I call experimental science," he says in his Opus Majus, "that which neglects argumentation, for the strongest arguments prove nothing so long as they are not verified by experience. Experimental science does not receive truth from the other sciences—it is she who is the mistress, the others are but her handmaids." And he tried to inculcate the application of this doctrine to mechanical and scientific investigations of all natural phenomena, setting no limits to the possibilities of human endeavors and forecasting far distant discoveries with an astounding prevision. Find out first, he urged, the real facts of Nature and then the laws governing them will be gradually unfolded. Man, he claimed, is to be the master of the world and his will is to govern and control the forces of nature. And he made this prediction away back there in the thirteenth century

A "Jargon" Time Has Explained.

"Machines will be invented to navigate the seas without rowers; to traverse the land with unimaginable velocity; to fly with artificial wings; to walk on the bottom of the seas without danger; to bridge rivers without piers or columns."

This was no chance speculation on the part of this old "friar of orders gray"—it was a prediction based upon his knowledge of the natural sciences, which though crude and imperfect, had led him close to secrets of matter and energy and mechanics which were to be sealed from the world's knowledge for seven centuries after his death. No wonder they thought the old fellow a dabbler in the "black magic." The initial impetus of many of the world's greatest scientific achievements have been traced back to the labors and the teachings of Roger Bacon. Here are a few of the things with which he is credited

If he did not actually discover gunpowder, he gave to the world the secret of its composition—imparting it, in his own cryptic fashion, in a Latin anagram. And gunpowder is acknowledged to be the greatest single factor, for good and for ill, in the development of civilization.

Four hundred years before Newton discovered the law of gravitation—or at least what he thought were the laws of gravitation and which the world has accepted as such—Bacon gave the clew that pointed out the paths of investigation that Newton followed. In his great work in which he set forth his scientific theories, the "Opus Majus," Bacon wrote "Everybody is a center of force from which energies radiate in every direction. Every action is accompanied by a reaction and there is an interchange of force between all bodies of the universe."

His studies in optics and the nature of light were known to Descartes, who came 300 years later, and strongly influenced the investigations of that philosopher to whom the foundation of our modern theories is ascribed. Roger Bacon understood the theory of vision, the anatomy of the eye and much of the physiology of perception, and published theories of the lenses and the microscope which afterwards led to the invention of the telescope. He even seemed to have a glimmering of the X-ray, or at least the penetrability of matter by rays of light, heat and sound. He wrote: "There is no substance upon which the passage of a ray (of heat or light) may not produce a change. They may penetrate the walls of a vessel of gold or of brass. In any case, there are many dense bodies which altogether interfere with the visual and other senses of man so that rays cannot pass so as to produce an effect on human sense and yet, nevertheless, rays do really pass, though without our being aware of it." What jargon this must have been to his contemporaries and yet clear enough in the light of twentieth century science.

Cleared Way for Columbus.

He solved the mystery of the rainbow and his experiments with the refraction of light through the hexagonal prisms of Iceland spar paved the way for spectrum analysis that disclosed the secrets of the stars.

Long before Pope Gregory reformed the calendar, Roger Bacon pointed out to Pope Clement IV, his contemporary pontiff, that the world was losing time and demonstrated the errors of the accepted lunar tables. It was Paul of Middleburg that suggested to Copernicus the need of more accurate reckonings and the reform of the calendar and in his treatise on the subject he quoted freely from Bacon's writings 200 years before him along the same lines.

Finally, it was probably Roger Bacon who paved the way for the discovery of America. A long passage from his "Opus Majus" treating of the possible proximity of Spain and India was copied, without credit, in the work of Peter d'Ailly and it was this very passage which Columbus cited as one of his authorities, thinking he was quoting d'Ailly, in his famous letter to the king and queen of Spain that brought about his momentous voyage.

But little is known of the life of Roger Bacon — a man of mystery about whom many contemporary superstitions were woven, he has been a puzzling personality to historians and his life and his writings were full of strange contradictions. Accepting all the medieval religious convictions, professing the strongest faith in the Scriptures and the absolute validity of revealed religion, his investigations in experimental philosophy were grounded upon the axiom that "only those things were true which could be proven by experience." On the other hand he had faith in astrology and believed that the destinies of men, and even of the Christian religion, were controlled by the planets. He believed also in the transmutation of metals and was always on the search for the "philosopher's stone." He experimented much with such devices as burning mirrors which he claimed could be used to set vessels on fire at a distance, and made chemical experiments to find a liquid that would prolong human life.

A Friend of Clement IV.

He was born sometime between 1210 and 1215, in England, near Ilchester. His family appears to have been wealthy; he stated that he had squandered a patrimony of £2,000 in his scientific studies and experiments. He studied at Oxford and later at Paris—at the latter university he was made a doctor with the title of "doctor mirabilis."

After some twenty years of scientific research, during which he reduced himself to poverty, he became a monk of the Franciscan order and continued his studies in the seclusion of his cloister. Afterwards he went to Oxford, it is supposed to teach the sciences, and after a few years at Oxford he returned to the monastery at Paris, where some constraint seems to have been put upon his actions and his utterances by the superiors of his order. On this point there is much mystery and conflict of opinion, as well as in regards to the real causes of his later imprisonment. Eager to publish his discoveries to the world, he was prevented from doing so not only by his poverty, but by the fact the superiors of the order to which he had pledged his obedience were not in accord with many of his startling and, at that time, "heretical" theories.

The difficulty was solved for him, however, when Clement IV, his friend and fellow student, was elected to the papacy in 1265. To him, over the heads of his superiors, Roger Bacon appealed and received a reply commanding him "by our Apostolic mandate that, notwithstanding the prohibition of any prelate, or any constitution of thy order, thou sendest to us speedily in good script that work which, while we held a minor office, we requested thee to communicate to us." And it was thus that Bacon's great work was given to the world.

JUST FOLKS

BY EDGAR A. GUEST

Returning Spring

It won't be long before we'll hear
The robins calling loud and clear,
And hear the blackbirds on the fence
With all their feathered consequence,
Chattering and sputtering over things.
And getting mad and locking wings
And bills and feet, the way men act
At times about some simple fact,
Disputing one another there
As though the Lord on high will care
Which one of them was fed the best
Or which one had the finest nest.

It won't be long before we'll see
The green returning to the tree,
An' over all our lives anew
Will stretch a kindly sky of blue;
The tulips will come springing up
To catch the sunbeams in a cup
And everyone of them will say,
"We were not dead, but just away.
We've had our sleep, and now we rise,
Fresh messengers from heavenly skies,
To carry beauty down below
For everyone of you to know.

It won't be long before the streams
Will wake from all their winter dreams,
And start to laugh and race again
Down hillsides and the level plain,
Making their journey to the sea
Most human-like it seems to me;
For we are headed seaward, too—
Each morning here we wake anew
To toss and race and move along
Towards that great unnumbered throng
Which went before, and at the end
Our lives with greater lives to blend.

It won't be long before the Spring
Should strengthen faith that's faltering.

TENNESSEE SOLONS GIVE $100,000 FOR MEMORIAL

Appropriation of $100,000 by the Tennessee legislature for the soldiers' memorial to be erected at Washington was asserted by legislators to be the first action that a state had taken toward the nation-wide movement.

NEWS FROM CAPITAL

What Congress Is Doing

A CONFERENCE between President Harding and Ambassador Jusserand, who announced the forthcoming courtesy visit of M. Viviani, former premier of France, paved the way for presentation of French desires for American aid in exacting reparations from Germany, American acceptance of the tripartite alliance to protect France, and entrance of the United States into a modified league of nations.

Postmaster General Hays wants postmasters throughout the country to be active in civic affairs in their respective communities, participating in the work of local chambers of commerce, boards of trade, commercial clubs, etc.

President Harding decides on Armistice day, Nov. 11, as the date for the ceremonies to be held at Arlington National cemetery on the occasion of the burial with national honors of one unknown soldier in memory of the American dead of the World war.

Attorney General Daugherty said that the case of Eugene V. Debs, Socialist prisoner at Atlanta, interested him deeply and that he proposed to begin a review of his case with a view to recommending clemency.

President Harding discussed with the cabinet proposals to provide emergency relief to agriculture, either by an embargo on imports or by tariff action.

Details of a bill changing the basis of valuation of imports from the foreign to the domestic value were worked out at a meeting of the Republican members of the house ways and means committee.

Figures of the bureau of labor statistics on employment conditions in February indicate a more favorable trend than was shown by data compiled by the United States employment service.

The war department announced that the draft slacker list had been reduced to 160,000 names and that publication of the list would begin within two weeks.

Western senators and representatives, accompanied by officers of the National Wool Growers' association, urged President Harding to approve the enactment of legislation placing an embargo on imports of wool.

Secretary of Commerce Hoover has approved increased activity on the part of the war finance corporation in the financing of exports.

Half of the principal railroads of the country showed a deficit in January, according to partial reports on earnings received by the interstate commerce commission.

Secretary of State Hughes' note to Panama demanding immediate acceptance of the White settlement of the boundary dispute with Costa Rica is regarded as significant of the inauguration of a firm policy by President Harding to require faithful discharge of international obligations by American republics and to settle conflicts in this hemisphere without the intervention of the league of nations.

Senator McCormick said that his budget bill, which was vetoed by President Wilson, will be one of the first measures passed by the new congress.

President Harding laid down the policy of hands off the Irish situation by refusing to permit United States soldiers and sailors to march in the Boston parade in which the Irish flag was carried.

The present attitude of President Harding is opposed to the resubmission of the Versailles treaty to the senate, opposed to ratification of the peace terms proper without the covenant, and opposed to entrance into the present league of nations.

Secretary of Commerce Hoover announced that a conference will be held with directors of the chamber of commerce of the United States to work out a plan for the appointment of advisory committees representing different industries to co-operate with the department in foreign trade promotion work.

Secretary Denby said that he had not considered the problem of uniting the divided fleet in the Pacific, nor would he comment on the reduction in British naval estimates beyond expressing the hope that the American navy building program would not be curtailed.

Plans for boosting domestic and foreign commerce, removing restrictions and aiding industrial and commercial expansion, were discussed at the cabinet meeting. President Harding has been informed by the heads of big industries that the low tide of the business depression has been passed.

President Harding approved the program of Republican congressional leaders to pass an anti-dumping bill and a bill to base the valuation of imports on the domestic instead of the foreign value as the first measure of the special session.

The senate adjourned to reconvene to special session April 11.

Failure of the President to appoint members of the shipping board is regarded as meaning that there will be a considerabdle delay before the selection of the new board.

Secretary of Labor Davis invited Secretary of Commerce Hoover and Secretary of Agriculture Wallace to participate in the conference with representatives of the packers and employes to discuss their wage controversy.

Representatives of more than 20 patriotic and welfare associations including the American Legion and National Security league, met and organized the National American council, the object of which is the co-ordination of activities of all organizations carrying on patriotic and educational work.

Republican members of the house ways and means committee reiterated their desire to have tariff legislation given precedence over tax revision, but reports were that President Harding is leaning toward taking up the tax bill first.

Persistent charges made by Enos A. Mills of Colorado against the interior department and national park service are answered by former Secretary John Barton Payne, in a letter made public by the department, categorically denying the truth of the statements made by Mr. Mills.

Senators fighting the Colombian treaty gave out a list of American oil companies, including the Standard and Sinclair interests, standing to benefit from the $25,000,000 placation of Colombia, which once threatened to nullify their holdings. Senator Borah said some oil concessions in Colombia are absolutely contingent on the American donation.

WAIT A MINUTE

BY HOWARD P. WARWICK

Uncle Henry says: "The way in which some folks delay returning a borrowed dollar, umbrella or book, makes me think that they believe in equal distribution."

Life's Discomforts.

Wearing a new hat home when you are sure your wife won't like it.

Useless Occupation.

A woman trying to keep calm while her petticoat is slowly slipping down as she walks along the street.

A Pessimist Is—

A man who begins to save money to buy an auto, but believes they'll be out of style before he accumulates enough.

INSURANCE.

Life insurance is something for which you pay out money every so often while you are living so someone else can collect it after you're dead. It is supposed to benefit your beneficiaries but it really benefits the undertaker as he doesn't have to wait a year or more for the heirs to pay your funeral expenses. The fellow who receives the greatest benefit from insurance is the man who sells the policies. In many cases when a man can't make a success of anything else he becomes an insurance agent and proceeds to persuade all his friends that they have enough of everything in the world but life insurance.

There are many kinds of insurance to entice money from those who don't want to take a chance. Sometimes a company will really pay you for a house that has burned down or an auto that has been stolen, but they hate to do it. They would rather collect the premiums.

It keeps an ordinary man humping to pay for his coal, rent, clothing, food and life insurance. He enjoys the heat from the coal, the home he rents, the clothing he wears and the food he eats, but his survivors enjoy his insurance.

Sometimes a man begins to think that all his friends sell insurance at least once in their lives. No sooner do you accommodate one friend than another bobs up and claims you are not carrying enough insurance. No one ever carries enough to satisfy the agent. If you feel that you are able to carry a thousand dollars' worth, the agent thinks five thousand is necessary. If you carried one hundred thousand he would want to sell you a million.

After listening to an insurance agent juggle figures until you become so confused that you can't understand them you get the impression that an insurance company is a philanthropic institution doing business out of love for mankind. Sometimes it's doubtful if the agent himself understands his own figures. He talks as if he were doing you a favor, compels you to sign on the dotted line and then proceeds to buy a new car with his commission. You can't even afford a 1910 model flivver, though your widow may have enough money left after the undertaker gets his share to start her next husband in business.

After you sign an application for a policy you are examined by a doctor. Unless you have more than one foot in the grave you are accepted, for the company needs the money. Then there is nothing to do but pay the premiums. Premiums are the countless sums of money due just when you want to buy a new suit, a necktie or some new linoleum for the house. Of course you do without everything except the premium receipt.

The only way to cheat an insurance company is to die young, but then you can't enjoy the money that is forthcoming. A silk-lined casket looks good, but you can't see the lining when you are the corpse. If you desire to make a profit off insurance the only thing to do is to become an agent and pester all your friends by reminding them that they are going to die some day.

Famous Affinities.

Damon and Pythias.
Corned beef and cabbage.
Husband and wife.
Stenographer and gum.
Skunk and profiteer.
Auto and bills.
Rent and landlord.
Hoe and rake.
Office boy and cigarets.

If you earn your bread by the sweat of your brow, and have reason to believe your ancestors labored with open pores for what they got—that is all the geneaology it is necessary for you to know.

THE STOWMARKET MYSTERY

By Louis Tracy

(Copyright, 1904, R. F. Fenno Co.)

Continued from Last Week

"Well, sir," continued the man excitedly, "I was mystified enough on New Year's Eve, but after the murder came out I thought I was fairly bewitched. That season is always a busy one for us, what between parcels, passengers and bad weather. On the morning of December 31, I fancied I saw Mr. David leave the London train due here at 12:15 midday. I only caught a glimpse of him, because there was a crowd of people, and he was all muffled up. I didn't give the matter a second thought until I saw him again step out of a first-class carriage at 2:20 p. m.. I looked at him rather sharp that time. He was differently dressed and hurried off without any luggage. He left the station quickly, so I imagined I had been mistaken a couple of hours earlier. You could have knocked me down with a feather when he appeared by the 5:22 p. m. This time he had several leather trunks, and a footman from the Hall was waiting for him on the platform. Excuse me, sir, but it was a fair licker!"

"It must have been. I wonder you did not speak to him!"

"I wish I had done so. Mr. David is usually a very affable young gentleman, but, what between my surprise and the bustle of getting the train away, I lost the opportunity. However, the queerest part of my story is coming. I'm blest if he didn't leave here again by the last train at 5:58 p. m. I missed his entrance to the station, but had a good look at him as the train went out. He showed the ticket-examiner at Ipswich a return half to London, because I asked by wire. Now what did it all mean?"

"If I could tell you, it would save me much trouble," said Brett gravely. "But why did you not mention these incidents subsequently?"

"Perhaps I was wrong, sir, I did not know what to do for the best. Every one at the Hall, including Mr. David himself, would have proved that I was a liar with respect to his two earlier arrivals and his departure by the 5:58. I did not see what I would accomplish except to arouse a strong suspicion that I had been drinking."

"Which would be unjustifiable?"

The stationmaster regained his dignity.

"I have been a teetotaler, sir, for more than twenty years."

"You are sure you are making no mistake?"

"Nothing of the kind, sir. I must have been very much mistaken, but I did not think so at the time, and it bothered me more than enough. If my evidence promised to be of any service to Mr. David, no consideration would have kept me back. As it was—"

"You thought it would damage him?"

"I'm afraid that was my idea."

"I agree with you. It is far better that it never came to the knowledge of the police. I am greatly obliged to you."

"May I ask, sir, if what I have told you will be useful in your inquiry?"

"Most decidedly. Some day soon Mr. David Hume-Frazer will thank you in person. I suppose you have no objection to placing your observations in written form for my private use, and sending the statement to me at the County Hotel?"

"Not the least, sir; good day."

The barrister walked to the hotel, having dispatched his bag by a porter.

"I suppose," he said to himself, "that when Winter came here he rushed straight to the police station. How his round eyes will bulge out of their sockets when I tell him what I have just learned."

CHAPTER XIII.

The surprising information given by the stationmaster impressed the barrister as so much unexpected trover which would assert its value in the progress of events. He certainly did not anticipate the discovery of three David Humes, though he had hoped to find traces of two.

Before he reached his hotel he experienced a spasm of doubt. Was his client telling the truth about his movements on that memorable Christmas Eve? David's story was fully corroborated by the railway official and the servants at the Hall, whose sworn evidence was in Brett's possession. But how about Hume's counterfeit presentments arriving by the earlier trains—coming from where and bound on what errands?

He resolutely closed down the trap-door opened by his imagination.

"The pit does not yawn for me," he communed, "but for the man who killed Sir Alan. Assuredly he will fall into it before many days. Nothing on earth can stop the meeting of two or more of the hidden channels now being opened up, and when they do meet there must be a dramatic outcome."

His chief purpose in revisiting Stowmarket was to seek further confidences from Mrs. Capella. He argued that the sudden journey of her husband to Naples would cause her much uneasiness, and she might now be inclined to reveal circumstances yet hidden.

He refused to take her at a disadvantage. From the hotel he sent a cyclist messenger with a note asking for an interview, and within an hour he received a cordial request to come at once.

Nevertheless, he was not a little astonished to find Helen Layton awaiting him in Margaret's boudoir.

The girl showed signs of recent agitation, but she explained her presence quietly enough.

"Mrs. Capella sent for me when your note reached her, Mr. Brett. She is greatly upset by recent events, and was actually on the point of telegraphing to Davie to ask him to bring you here at once when your message was handed to her. She will be here presently. Please do not press her too closely to reveal anything she wishes to withhold. She is so emotional and excited, poor thing, that I fear her health may be endangered."

Miss Layton's words were not well chosen. She was conscious of the fact, and blushed furiously when Brett received her request with a friendly nod of comprehension.

"I do not know what to say for the best," she went on desperately. "I am so sorry for Margaret, and it seems to me to be a terrible thing that my proposed marriage with her cousin should be the innocent cause of all this trouble."

"Is it the cause?" he asked.

"What else can it be? Certainly not Mr. Capella's foolish actions. If Davie and I were married, and far away from this neighborhood, we would probably never see him again. I assure you I attach no serious significance to his mad fancy for me. The real reason for the present bother is Davie's desire to reopen the story of the murder. Of that I am convinced."

"Then what do you wish me to do?"

Helen's eyes became suspiciously moist.

"How am I to decide?" she said tremulously. "Naturally, I want the name of my future husband to be cleared of the odium attached to it, but it is hard that this cannot be done without driving a dear woman like Margaret to despair, perhaps to the grave."

"I do not see why the one course should involve the other."

"Nor do I; but the fact remains. Mr. Capella's decision to go to Naples is somehow bound up with it. Oh, dear! During the last two years a dozen or more girls have been happily married in this village without any one being killed, or running away, or dying of grief. Why should those things descend upon my poor little head?"

"Perhaps you are mistaken. Events have conspired to point to you as the unconscious source of a good deal that has happened. Personally, Miss Layton, I incline to the belief that you are no more responsible than David Hume-Frazer. If the mystery of Sir Alan's death is ever solved, I feel assured that its genesis will be found in circumstances not only beyond your control, but wholly independent, and likely to operate in the same way if both you and your fiance had never either seen or heard of Beechcroft Hall."

"Oh, Mr. Brett," she cried impulsively, "I wish I could be certain of that!"

"Try and adopt my opinion," he answered, with a smile, for the girl's dubiety was not very flattering.

"I know I am saying the wrong thing. I cannot help it. Margaret's distress tried me sorely. Be gentle with her—that is all I ask."

The door opened, and Mrs. Capella entered. Helen's observations had prepared Brett to some extent, yet he was shocked to see the havoc wrought in Margaret's appearance by days of suffering and nights of sleepless agony.

Her face was drawn and ivory-white, her eyes unnaturally brilliant, her lips bloodless and pinched. She was again garbed in black, and the sombre effect of her dress supplied a startling contrast to the deathly pallor of her features.

She recognized Brett's presence by a silent bow, and sank onto a couch. She was not acting, but really ill, overwrought, inert, physically weak from want of food and sleep.

Helen ran to her side, and took her in a loving clasp.

"You poor darling!" she cried. "Why are you suffering so?"

Now there was nothing on earth Brett detested so thoroughly as a display of feminine sentiment, no matter how spontaneous or well-timed. At heart he was conscious of kindred emotions. A child's cry, a woman's sob, the groan of a despairing man, had power to move him so strangely that he had more than once allowed a long-sought opportunity to slip from his grasp rather than sear his own soul by displaying callous indifference to the sufferings of others.

The tears of these two, however, set his teeth on edge. What were they whining about—the affections of a doll of a man whose antics had been rightly treated by David when he proved to Capella that there is nothing like leather.

For the barrister labored under no delusions respecting either woman. Margaret, who secretly feared her husband, was only pining for his rekindled admiration, whilst Helen, though true as steel to David Hume, could not be expected to regard the Italian's misplaced passion as utterly outrageous. No woman can absolutely hate and despise a man for loving her, no matter how absurd or impossible his passion may be. She may proclaim, even feel, a vast amount of indignation, but in the secret recesses of her soul, hidden perhaps from her own scrutiny, she can find excuses for him.

Brett regarded Capella as an impressionable scamp, endowed with a too vivid imagination, and he determined forthwith to stir his hearers into revolt, defiance—anything but languishing regret and condolence.

Margaret soon gave him an opportunity. Recovering her self-possession with an effort, she said:

"I am glad you are here, Mr. Brett. Helen has probably told you that we need your presence—not that I have much to say to you, but I must have the advice of a wiser and clearer head than my own in the present position or affairs."

"Exactly so," replied the barrister cheerily. "As a preliminary to a pleasant chat, may I suggest a cup of tea for each of us?"

The ladies were manifestly astonished. Tea! When broken hearts were scattered around! The suggestion was pure bathos.

Margaret, with a touch of severity, permitted Brett to ring, and coldly agreed with Helen's declaration that she could not think of touching any species of refreshment at such a moment.

"Then," said Brett, advancing and holding out his hand, "I will save your servants from needless trouble, Mrs. Capella. I am equally emphatic in my insistence on food and drink as primary necessities. For instance, a cup of good tea just now is much more important in my eyes than your husband's vagaries."

"Surely you will not desert me?" appealed Margaret.

"Mr. Brett, how can you be so heartless?" cried Helen.

"Your words cut me to the bone," he answered, with an easy smile, "but in this matter I must be adamant. My dear ladies, pray consider. What a world we should live in if people went without their meals because they were worried. Three days of such treatment would end the South African War, give Ireland Home Rule, bring even the American Senate to reason. A week of it would extinguish the human race. If the system has such potentialities, it is unreasonable to ask whether or not any single individual—even Mr. Capella—is worth the loss of a cup of tea because he chooses to go to Naples?"

A servant entered.

"Is it to be for three, or none?" inquired Brett, compelling Margaret to meet his gaze.

"James, bring tea at once," said Mrs. Capella.

The barrister accepted this partial surrender. He looked out over the park.

"What lovely weather!" Brett exclaimed. "How delightful it must be at the seaside just now! Really, I am greatly tempted to run up to Whitby for a few days. Have you ever been there, Mrs. Capella? Or you, Miss Layton? No! Well, let me recommend the northeast coast of Yorkshire as a cure for all ills. Do you know that, within the next fortnight, you can, if energetic enough, see from the cliffs at Whitby the sun rise and set in the sea? It is the one place in England where such a sight is possible. And the breeze there! When it blows from the north, it comes straight from the Polar Sea. There is no land intervening. Naples — evil-smelling, dirty Naples! Pah! Who but a lunatic would prefer Naples to Whitby in July!"

Margaret was now incensed, Helen surprised, and even slightly amused.

Brett rattled on, demanding and receiving occasional curt replies. the tea came.

Whatever the failings of Beechcroft might be, they had not reached the kitchen. Delightful little rolls of thin bread and butter, sandwiches of cucumber and pate de foie gras, tempting morsels of pastry, home-made jam, and crisp biscuits showed that the housekeeper had unconsciously adopted Brett's view of her mistress' needs.

Margaret, hardly knowing what she did, toyed at first with these delicacies, until she yielded to the demands of her stimulated appetite. Helen and Brett were unfeignedly hungry, and when Brett rose to ring for more cucumber sandwiches, they all laughed.

"The first time I met you," said Margaret, whose cheeks began to exhibit a faint trace of color, "I told you that you could read a woman's heart. I did not know you were also qualified to act as her physician."

"If the first part of my treatment is deemed successful, then I hope you will adopt the second. I am quite in earnest concerning Whitby, or Cromer, if you do not care to go far north."

"But, Mr. Brett, how can I possibly leave Beechcroft now?"

"Did Mr. Capella consult you when he went to Naples? Are you not mistress here? Take my advice, Give the majority of your servants a holiday. Close your house, or, better still, have every room dismantled on the pretence of a thorough renovation. Leave it to paperhangers, plasterers and caretakers. The rector may be persuaded to allow Miss Layton to come with you to London, where you should visit your dressmaker, for you can now dispense with mourning. When your husband returns from Naples, let him rage to the top of his bent. By that time I may be able to spare Mr. Hume to look after both of you for a week or so. Permit your husband to join you when he humbly seeks permission—not before. Believe me, Mrs. Capella, if you have strength of will to adopt my program in its entirety, the trip to Naples may have results wholly unexpected by the runaway."

"Really, Margaret, Mr. Brett's advice seems to me to be very sensible. It happens, too, that my father needs a change of air, and I think we could both persuade him to come with us to the coast."

Helen, like all well-regulated young English women, quickly took a reasonable view of the problem. Already Capella's heroics and his wife's lamentations began to appear ridiculous.

Margaret looked wistfully at both of them.

"You do not understand why my husband has gone to Naples," she said slowly, seemingly revolving something in her mind.

"I think I can guess his motive," said the barrister.

"Tell me your explanation of the riddle," she answered lightly, though a shadow of fear crossed her eyes.

"Soon after your marriage he imagined that he discovered certain facts connected with your family—possibly relative to your brother's death—which served to estrange him from you. Whatever they may be, whether existent or fanciful, you are in no way responsible. He has gone to Naples to obtain proofs of his suspicions, or knowledge. He will come back to terrorize you, perhaps to seek revenge for imaginary wrongs. Therefore, I say, do not meet him half-way by sitting here, blanched and fearful, until it pleases him to return. Compel him to seek you. Let him find you at least outwardly happy and contented, careless of his neglect, and more pleased than otherwise by his absence. Tell him to try Algiers in August and Calcutta in September."

Margaret's eyes were wildly distended. Her mobile features expressed both astonishment and anxiety. She covered her face with her hands, in an attitude of deep perplexity.

They knew she was wrestling with the impulse to take them wholly into confidence.

At last she spoke:

"I cannot tell you," she said, "how comforting your words are. If you, a stranger, can estimate the truth so nearly, why should I torture myself because my husband is outrageously unjust? I will follow your counsel Mr. Brett. If possible, Nellie and I will leave here tomorrow. Perhaps Mrs. Eastham may be able to come to town with us. Will you order my carriage? A drive will do me good. Come with Nellie and me, and stay here to dinner. For today we may dispense with ceremony."

She left the room, walking with a firm and confident step.

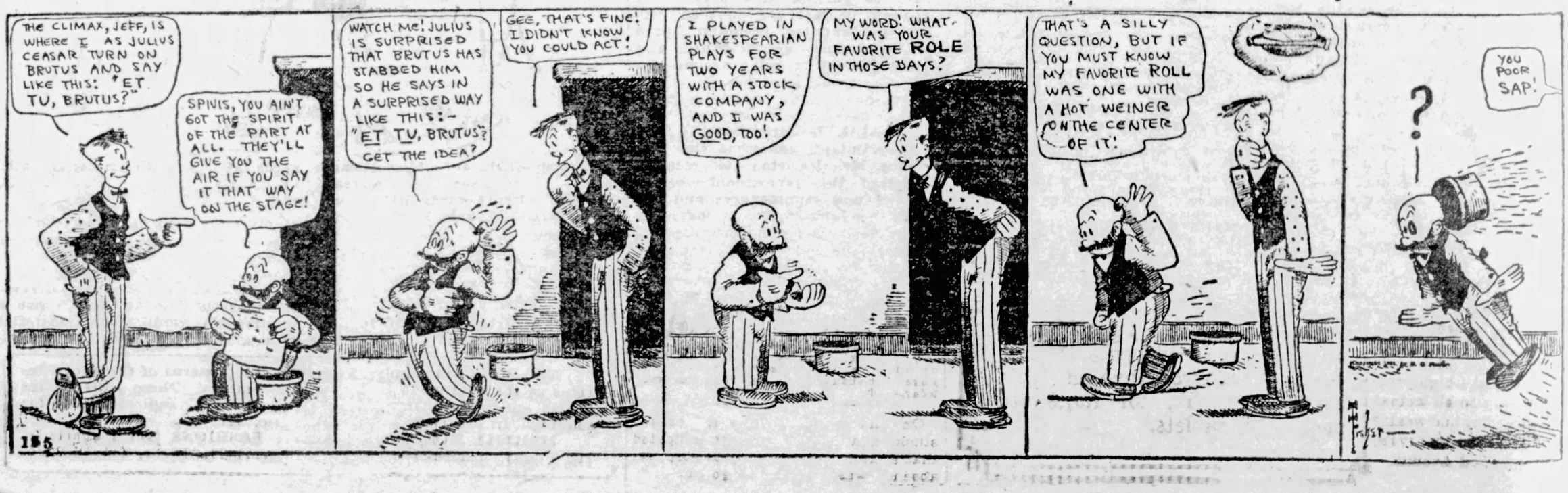
Brett turned to Miss Layton.

"Capella is in for trouble," he said with a laugh. "He will be forced to make love to his wife a second time."

To Be Continued

MUTT AND JEFF—Spivis Learns Something About the Little Fellow's Past

By "BUD" FISHER


THE CLIMAX, JEFF, IS WHERE I AS JULIUS CEASAR TURN ON BRUTUS AND SAY LIKE THIS: "ET TU, BRUTUS?"
SPIVIS, YOU AIN'T GOT THE SPIRIT OF THE PART AT ALL. THEY'LL GIVE YOU THE AIR IF YOU SAY IT THAT WAY ON THE STAGE!
WATCH ME! JULIUS IS SURPRISED THAT BRUTUS HAS STABBED HIM SO HE SAYS IN A SURPRISED WAY LIKE THIS:- "ET TU, BRUTUS"? GET THE IDEA?
GEE, THAT'S FINE! I DIDN'T KNOW YOU COULD ACT!
I PLAYED IN SHAKESPEARIAN PLAYS FOR TWO YEARS WITH A STOCK COMPANY, AND I WAS GOOD, TOO!
MY WORD! WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE ROLE IN THOSE DAYS?
THAT'S A SILLY QUESTION, BUT IF YOU MUST KNOW MY FAVORITE ROLL WAS ONE WITH A HOT WEINER ON THE CENTER OF IT!
?—
YOU POOR SAP!

Questions and Answers

Rule 1—Your real name and post-office address must be on the sheet with the question. Initials will not do. 2. Ask only one question; that is, there may be several questions on the same subject, but no different subject. 3. This department will not give the address of any person or firm, nor answer as to the reliability of any person or firm not tell where you can buy anything—nothing in the way of free advertising. 4. We reserve the right to decline to answer any question not of general interest to a majority of our readers. 5. We will not answer any question involving dogma or doctrine or Biblican interpretations; no prices of old coins or stamps; no arithmetical or grammatical questions.

Thomas Carlyle

Can you publish a biography of Thomas Carlyle?—W. E. B., Moffatts Creek, Va.

Thomas Carlyle, the Scottish critic and historian, was born in 1795 and died in 1881. He was the son of a stone mason and was educated at Edinburgh university. He taught mathematics at several places and in 1824 moved to London, where he married Jane Welsh. While in London he became a prominent member of a literary circle and about 1820 began to contribute to Scottish and English magazines. He set himself to the task of acquainting English readers with German literature through his translations of and critical essays on it.

Toward the end of life Carlyle was offered a government pension and baronetcy, but declined both. His command over the English language was greater than almost any other prose writer, and his style was unique.

Among Carlyle's greatest writings were Life of Schiller, Sartor Resartus, French Revolution, History of Frederick the Great, etc.

Benjamin T. Roberts

I would like an account of the life of Benjamin T. Roberts.—E. P., Huntington, W. Va.

Benjamin Titus Roberts, the American Methodist clergyman, was born in Leon, N. Y., in 1823, and died in Chili, N. Y., on Feb. 27, 1893. In 1848 he graduated at Wesleyan university and joined the Genessee conference of the Methodist Episcopal church. In 1860 Roberts was one of the seceders from that body who founded the Free Methodist sect, of which he became the first district superintendent. He also began a monthly magazine called The Earnest Christian and in 1865 founded the Cheeseborough Academy at North Chili, N. Y., serving as its president from 1869 until his death. Roberts is the author of Fishers of Men, Why Another Sect, First Lesson in Money and Ordaining Women.

Henry Jackson Hunt

Please give a short sketch of the life of General Hunt in this department.—H. L. H., Grove City, Pa.

Henry Jackson Hunt, the American soldier, was born in Detroit, Mich., on Sept. 14, 1819, and died in Washington, D. C., on Feb. 11, 1899. He graduated from West Point in 1839 with a commission in the artillery. He saw service in the Canadian rebellion and in the Mexican War. In General Scott's advance on Mexico City he distinguished himself as an officer of the artillery and received the brevet rank of major for his gallantry. In 1856 Hunt was placed on the board engaged in revising the system of light artillery tactics.

At the outbreak of the Civil war, Hunt was stationed at Fort Pickens, Fla., and in 1861 commanded the artillery at the battle of Bull Run and in the defense of Washington. As commander of the artillery he was present at the battles of Malvern Hill and South Mountain. In 1862 Hunt was brevetted brigadier general of volunteers and was present at the battles of Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, served in the Wilderness campaign and at the end of the war retired with the rank of brigadier general in the United States army.

In 1866 Hunt received the commission of colonel in the reorganized army, and in 1883 became governor of the National Soldiers' Home at Washington, D. C.

Matthew F. Maury

Please give a brief biography of Matthew Maury in these columns.—W. T. W., Goshen, Va.

Matthew Fontaine Maury, the American naval officer and hydrographer, was born in Spottsylvania county, Va., on Jan. 14, 1806, and died in Lexington, Va., on Feb. 1, 1873. He studied at the Harpeth Academy in Tennessee, and entered the U. S. navy in 1825. During a voyage around the world he began a treatise on navigation, long used as text book in the navy. In 1836 he was made a lieutenant, but was lamed in accident three years, and left active sea service for scientific work at the naval observatory. He published many books on ocean currents and navigation.

In 1853 Maury reached the rank of commander and projected the maritime conference at Brussels. When the southern states seceded in 1861 Maury gave his services to the Confederate cause. For some time he attached himself to the fortunes of the Emperor Maximilian in Mexico, but for the last few years of his life was professor of physics at the Virginia Military Institute.

RECKLESS

'Cracker' Pays 3 Cents for M. O. for One Cent to Pay First Installment On His Income Tax. Yep! Some of 'Em Are.

A taxpayer whose total tax was four cents and who insisted on paying in four installments, bought a one-cent money order for which he paid three cents, it was revealed in Augusta, Ga. The taxpayer, a tall, lank farmer who gave his address as Lincoln county, but whose name was not divulged, personally submitted his return to the deputy collector of internal revenue using the one-cent money order to pay the first installment.

A Long, Clean Drive

"It's easy" if you are strong. You can be strong and well—you can overcome all obstacles if you will but listen to the advice of many of your neighbors. If your existence is made gloomy by the chronic weaknesses, delicate derangements and painful disorders that afflict the sex, you will find relief from your troubles in Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. If you're overworked, nervous, or "run-down," you will find new life and strength. It's a powerful, invigorating tonic and nervine which was discovered and used by an eminent physician for many years. For young girls just entering womanhood, for women at all times; the "Favorite Prescription" will surely benefit.

The "Prescription" contains no alcohol, now sold in tablet form by all druggists for 60 cents. Send 10 cents to Dr. Pierce, Invalids' Hotel, Buffalo, N. Y., for large trial package of tablets.

TOLEDO, OHIO. —"I have found Doctor Pierce's Favorite Prescription to give renewed health and strength when I have been run-down, weak and nervous. It strengthens me as no other tonic ever has and I highly recommend it to all women who are ailing and weak." —MRS. CORA SULLIVAN, 1630 Norwood Avenue.

American Legion News and Views

INCLUDED among Ten Terse Tenents of Americanism prepared by Alfred C. Paul, Department Americanism Officer of West Virginia, and sent to all posts in that state, are the following paragraphs:

"You shall not take off your patriotism because you took off your uniform.

"You are an American. You have proved it. Had you been killed in the war you would have been proud to die an American. Be just as proud to live an American.

"You are responsible for the Americanism of your community. It is as dangerous to be asleep on questions involving Americanism in your community as it was to be asleep on your sentry post in France. Do not tolerate un-American practices. Be sure to see that your most alert Legionnaire is made the Americanism officer of your post.

"You shall talk Americanism. Criticize this government if you have occasion to—nothing in the world is above constructive criticism—but end every debate with the decision that, despite the criticism, America is the greatest republic of all time and that nowhere under the sun does a man have more privilege for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

"You are an American or you are not."

From the 300,000 officers and men who composed it or were supposed to compose it when the war closed, the naval reserve force of the country is to be cut down to 120,000 and relieved of all "dead timber," according to an order recently issued from the bureau of navigation for the reorganization of the entire reserve.

Not more than 25 per cent of the 300,000 carried since the war on the reserve roll of the navy have been considered available for mobilization in case of an emergency. Thousands of these reservists have made no effort to keep the navy department informed of their addresses, and there are at present 60,000 retainer pay checks for reservists, amounting to more than $2,500,000, in the files of the allotment office at Washington, returned because of improper addresses.

One feature of the new naval reserve force, as contemplated, will be a naval reserve flying corps composed of 2,000 commissioned flyers.

Newton D. Baker, as one of his final acts before leaving his post as secretary of war, issued an appeal to the newspapers of the country to guard against designating ex-service men burglars, hold-up men and other criminals without proper investigation. He declared that in many cases investigation would prove the persons referred to never had been identified with the nation's armed forces. "When these people are so styled there is a grave injustice done to the great body of men who may properly pride themselves in being ex-service men," Mr. Baker said.

The southwestern conference of the Legion, held in Dallas, Texas, which was attended by department officials, post commanders and adjutants from Arkansas, Colorado, Texas and Oklahoma, has been established as a regular affair, with the next meeting scheduled for Oklahoma City in the fall. Dr. Guy O. Shirey, commander of the department of Texas, was elected chairman of the permanent organization.

Unity of effort among the departments represented at the conference in a vigorous campaign to carry out the Legion's hospitalization program in the southwestern states was pledged by the delegates. Plans to further the erection of hospitals to care for disabled veterans in Arkansas, Colorado, Texas and Oklahoma were perfected, and it was decided to bring pressure to bear on southwestern representatives in congress to pass the Legion's bills.

Russell G. Creviston, assistant national adjutant, addressed the conference. Mr. Creviston also recently addressed the department conference of post commanders and adjutants at Lincoln, Neb., where the statewide membership drive was a leading topic, in addition to the Legion's national plans.

How to Heal Leg Sores

A new illustrated book sent free to readers by the successful specialist, D. H. J. Whittier, Suite 146, 421 East 11th St., Kansas City, Mo., tells how to be rid of leg sores by using his unique discovery, result of 32 years specializing. Writ for your free copy today.—Adv.

On the first railways a candle stuck in a station window indicated that a train was required to stop; its absence was a signal to go on.

FASHIONS BY MARTHA HOLDEN

'TIS Children's Day in this corner, with five eloquent little "speakers" giving an illustrated talk on fashions. If one didn't love children for their own dear, interesting selves, one would wish that they had someone for whom they might make or buy the bewitching toggery children are wearing today. Clothes for little people may seem simple enough, and yet they have a way of bringing out all the beauty of childhood, so they are wise and subtle fashions, after all.

Small misses may have all the ease and freedom of motion as to legs, as a boy, and yet look like the demurest, daintiest of little girls, with never a finger shaken toward them, admonishing them to keep petticoats down and uncrumpled. Good reason—there aren't any petticoats. No. 9929 is doing her very best to illustrate this for you. The lacings, like a middy blouse up side down, are as good or better than ordinary trimming any day, and give the wearer the air of being a valuable parcel neatly tied up.

The little dotted swiss, or polka dotted percale girl across the way is just what she appears to be, a sweet, unaffected child without any assumed airs and graces.

We just know that 8854 is their playmate, although he has been taken in hand by his two big sisters, and no wonder they seem to be waiting for him to come back to them. We'd be willing to wait for him to come play with us, too, he's so sturdy and just right-y. Evidently his mother knew that his trousers should end their career just above the knee, instead of awkwardly just below. She knew, too, that his shirt should look like a shirt and not a "sissy" blouse, even if the buttons which fasten it to the trousers do give it away a bit. Daddy's shirt never did have a pocket more spruce and accomodating, and the collar and tie are just like every other little boy is wearing if his mother studies little boy styles. Grown-up men, too, are rather inclining to bow ties, they have such an airy, jaunty, springtime look. The robins wear their red cravats just that way.

Really our typewriter almost stutters, and transposes worse 'n ever when we try to write of the children's fashions of today. They're so modest and dashing, frivolous and sensible, easy to make, but difficult to describe. The rompers are so cunning that you could even hug them as they hang on a wooden frame in a window and with your little girl or boy filling them out plumply and "curvily," we wouldn't like to answer for what we might do. Anyway, don't trust us. Our arms just naturally "curve cradlewise" at the first glimpse of them.

Could there be anything dearer, more simple, than 9923 and 9918, we wonder? If you know of any, just you trot 'em out and we'll have a contest, but we warn you, you are sure to lose!

Just as it is with the grown-ups, young people's clothes have that wonderful note of intriguing simplicity. Color and line and a sense of proportion are the things that count. A bit of hand work, little touches here and there, add immeasurably to the tone of frock or suit, but may be dispensed with and still be very smart.

Shoes and hats and caps, perhaps, are more radical in their changes, but they are sensible, too, and good looking. Ribbons for sashes and hat trimming are particularly lovely, a visit to the ribbon counter being an especial treat just now. One feels as though one had visited a bazaar in Bagdad, so colorful and rich are they. They are all the encouragement an otherwise sober frock needs to be jolly and gay.

No. 9929—Girl's and Child's Romper Dress—Cut in sizes 2 to 10 years. Size 8 requires 3 yards 36-inch material with 3¾ yards binding and 5 yards ribbon.

No. 9942—Child's One-Piece Dress—Cut in sizes ½, 1, 2 to 6 years. Size 4 requires 1⅝ yards 36-inch material with 1¾ yards edging.

No. 9918—Girl's Dress—Cut in sizes 6 to 14 years. Size 8 requires 1⅛ yards 44-inch light material, with 1⅛ yards 44-inch dark material, with ½ yard 36-inch lining.

No. 8854—Boy's Suit—Cut in sizes 2, 4, 6 and 8 years. Size 4 requires ⅞ yard 36-inch light material, with ⅞ yard 36-inch dark material.

No. 9923—Girl's One-Piece Dress—Cut in sizes 6 to 14 years. Size 8 requires 1⅞ yards 36-inch material with ¼ yard contrasting.

The Blade will supply its readers with patterns of the above designs at the rate of 15 cents for each pattern. These patterns are stylish and perfect fitting. All seams allowed. Full directions for making. In ordering give number, size, age, etc.

MARTHA HOLDEN BOOKS OF FASHIONS issued quarterly, 10c a copy. Address: Pattern Department, The Blade, Toledo, Ohio.

OUR PEACE PAGE

DRESS UP!

BY MARTHA HOLDEN.

"Spring is here—dress up
"Home!
"Self!"

THESE words appeared on a brave little card swinging gaily from a cord in the front end of a street car.

Outside, it was a misty day—the kind of day that makes even a pert sparrow creep under the eaves, more bedraggled as to tail and raucous as to voice than usual. Perhaps, though, it is the kind of day that speaks in the most coaxing whispers and soft persuasiveness to the crocuses and daffodils, still snuggled down, fearful of wind and cold.

And still that gay little sign, tossed about by the motion of the rocking car, bravely kept right on proclaiming, "Spring is here," until one began to suspect even the mist of concealing violets among its gray draperies. Why, one could almost smell them, so real and tangible a thing did spring become on that dreary, misty, "moisty" morning.

Just now, when there are mists of labor unrest, threatening clouds of war on the horizon, rains of financial failures, benumbing chill of every sort of criminal violence, we need to have little signs like this one, posted whichever way we may look. It was the color of sunshine and swung back and forth like a censer before the altar of Spring and dispelled something of its fragrance, warmth and promise. We may help with the fulfillment.

Right away, as soon as her eye caught the message, Martha began planning to furbish up her wardrobe to a spring-like freshness. One feels as dejected as the sparrows in the rain when the first bright, searching sunbeams of spring show up all one's shabbiness. After she could vizualize a more spruce self and feel encouraged by it, Martha began to see her house "as ithers see it," with a noticeable dinginess in spots. A bit of cretonne here and there, a jacking up of "lame" table legs and chair arms, will begin to do wonders where soap and water must, of necessity, leave off. Houses are like people. They not only need a bath, but something new. So interested did she become in the subject suggested by the bobbing little sign that Martha forgot that she was passing through streets familiar in her childhood, but which she had not seen for a long time until called o New York state for a flying trip combining business with a brief "hello" to "auld acquaintance." She even had to have her attention called to old landmarks and new wonders, so deep was she in her reverie—going farther than the small yellow placard had asked her to do, although it was entirely responsible for her train of thought.

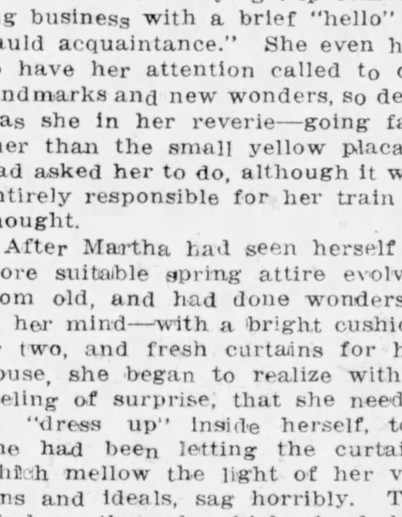
After Martha had seen herself in more suitable spring attire evolved from old, and had done wonders—in her mind—with a bright cushion, or two, and fresh curtains for her house, she began to realize with a feeling of surprise, that she needed to "dress up" inside herself, too. She had been letting the curtains which mellow the light of her visions and ideals, sag horribly. The windows through which she habitually looks out upon life had become a bit dingy, befogging her perspective. Under some nice, fluffy-looking cushions of charitableness she knew perfectly well that there were sagging springs of faith in others. Those springs must be fixed, or there surely would be a catastrophe. Cushions, however inviting and beautiful, need support.

And then Martha remembered all the things stored away in her attic that she had intended renovating and putting into use, once more. Some of the most really valuable of her possesions are stored away—such as seeing her friends, writing to them, and making little visits to the sick and sorrowful. Stored away in an attic, good intentions remain just good intentions—a little more dusty, a little less easily recognized from long disuse. Better to have them, climbed upon and soiled and scratched in service than put away in storage.

Perhaps this is just what the gay, bobbing little sign meant from its very first announcement, "Spring is here." That is just a joyous, resurrecting little message in itself, and it makes winter flannels and winter thoughts feel so sort of scratchy and smothery. Spring housecleaning, mental, spiritual and physical, is more of an inspiration than a bugbear—it's such a blossoming, growing, changing season that one would just hate to stand still. It's either wither and decay, or "dress up, home, self"—at least so the little sign said, and Martha "believes in signs," even when they flap-slap in her face from a car cord and shake their fists at her slothfulness and do-nothingness.

DANDERINE

Stops Hair Coming Out; Thickens, Beautifies.



A few cents buys "Danderine." After a few applications you cannot find a fallen hair or any dandruff, besides every hair shows new life, vigor, brightness, more color and thickness.

Mixing With Martha

FRENCH DRESSING

This is a dressing that Martha concocts and keeps in her refrigerator indefinitely. Any large mouthed bottle—an olive bottle will do, although there are "fat" bottles of etched or cut glass with large glass stoppers made especially for the purpose. Into the bottom of the bottle put about half of a small onion chopped. Some prefer a section or two of garlic. Add about a teaspoon of salt, a quarter teaspoon mustard, pinch of red pepper, a dash of onion salt, if you have it; a teaspoon celery salt, about a teaspoon walnut catsup or Worcestershire sauce. Fill the bottle about two-thirds full of vinegar and the other third of salad oil—olive, or the substitute oils, which are very good. Do not fill quite to the top, because the bottle is to be used as a shaker, thus thoroughly mixing the ingredients before using. Martha fills two or three bottles each with about this proportion setting them away to refill the pretty bottle for the table where she dresses her salad. Almost any salad is better freshly dressed.

Brown Bread.

One pint sour milk, one teaspoonful soda, pinch of salt, two-thirds cup of sugar. Brown sugar is best, wet with a little water, enough to dissolve it. Three cups graham flour. Bake one hour.

MERRY-GO-ROUND

I loved the wind,
Whether in winter when its trump did blow
Through desolate gorges dirges of despair;
Or whether it breathed soft in vernal hours,
And filled the trees with sap, and filled the grass with flowers.
—R. H. Stoddard.

A Lover of Songs, Old and New

For a long time I have silently read the Peace Page, but so earnestly do I desire the words to these songs: "When You Look in the Heart of a Rose," and "Kiss me Again," that I no longer can keep silent. In the February issues a reader requested the words to "I'm a twelve o'clock fellow in a nine o'clock town." I hoped to see it in print, but was disappointed. We have been unable to understand our record of this song, hence a friendly but emphatic argument has arisen in the family. If these songs cannot be printed, I would feel greatly indebted to any reader who would send them to me. I wish to suggest, with all due respect to the old songs, that some of the better class of new songs might occupy their place in the Poets' Corner. Some of the songs requested and printed in the Poets' Corner are so old and familiar that everybody should have known them years ago. Some of the readers have advised giving the Peace Page a chance to expand at the expense of the two serial stories. Much as I wish that the Peace Page might have more space, I would regret to see it done at the expense of the stories. Never, since I have been a Blader reader have I found an uninteresting story between its covers. My! I have made quite a visit for my first trip. If this is kindly received, I will come again. What on earth has one of my sex done to Buckeye Bill to call forth such an oration from him? I will give my address, Box 4, Malksburg, O., and hope that in some way I may see the three requested songs in black and white. With best wishes to the cousins and kindest regards to you, Aunt Martha, I am a Blade enthusiast—Mrs. Muriel Swain.

From the Best of Old Friends.

Dear Sirs—I thank you for your very generous offer and am sorry that in my present condition it will be impossible to act as an agent for you. I am now in by 97th year, and my eyesight has so failed that I cannot read any print, or write with pen or pencil. This (typewriter) is the only way I can write and cannot see to read what I have written to correct the mistakes. I hope you will be able to read it. My hearing also is failing me some, as well as my memory. Otherwise, my general health is remarkably good. Some years ago I did act as an agent for you and sent you, perhaps, nearly one thousand subscribers to the weekly. In one month I sent in one hundred and fifty-nine subscriptions. I was competing for the watch prize, but someone else was ahead of me. I failed. I was a subscriber and reader of The Blade when it was only a folio of four pages. Then it was one dollar for a year's subscription. It always was interesting to me, especially when Nasby was a writer for it. I used to contribute some of my own writing for the Peace Page over the signature of "Uncle Henry," when Martha Holden was its editor. Is she here yet? My true respects to her. I hope that you will succeed in obtaining the number of subscribers you are aiming for and that the good old Blade will continue to prosper. Will still remain truly yours, with my best wishes.—Henry Neff, Buckhannon, W. Va.

Such letters as that justify The Blade's existence, if nothing else did, and we have a warm feeling about the heart for many a long day when we have such evidences of loyal friendship. We shall hope to hear from this friend again and hope that someone will tell him for us that although his letter was not meant to be printed, it was too good to keep all to ourselves, and that his good wishes are especially appreciated by Martha Holden.

"AN APPRECIATION."

I am a teacher, 26 years of age. I am writing just a little note to tell you how much I enjoy your letters. I am sure The Blade is a real treasure to all of us. I read it all, but I especially enjoy the letters, the questions and answers, Aunt Martha's messages and the Poet's Corner. I was very much pleased to see the three "Gypsy" poems last week. When acted out by three characters, a lover, a maid and a gypsy fortune teller, while the poems are recited by a reader or by the characters, they form an interesting number for a program. I saw it given once, and intend to use it myself soon. Not long ago some M. G. R. member wrote of possesing a copy of Will Carleton's poems. I am very anxious to obtain a poem called April's Girl or The April Girl, and I think it is by Carleton. I believe the selection contains three verses of either five or six lines each. Hoping that there may be many requests that I shall be able to answer, I am—Another Rider of the M. G. R.

Utilitarian and Pretty

Serving trays are again popular and many original ideas have been developed. One which I thought especially pretty was a large tray mounted in green wicker, with ten large white blossoms of that lovely weed, "Queen Anne's Lace," set in under the glass of an old blue background. The effect was novel and artistic. Another idea is that of mounting brilliantly colored flowers on a background of some contrasting color. There might be unending combinations made along these lines when you think of all the bright summer flowers—the black-eyed Susan, the red poppy, the nasturtium with its many shades and the pansy.

Children Cry
FOR FLETCHER'S
CASTORIA

The POETS' CORNER

The Pretty Mohea

As I went out walking
For pleasure, one day,
In sweet recreation
To while the time away;
As I sat amusing
Myself on the grass,
Oh, who should I spy
But a fair Indian lass!

She sat down beside me,
And taking my hand,
Said: "You are a stranger
And in a strange land;
But if you will follow,
You're welcome to come
And dwell in the cottage
That I call my home."

The sun was fast sinking
Far o'er the blue sea,
When I wandered alone
With my pretty Mohea.
Together we wandered,
Together did rove,
Till we came to the cot
In the cocoanut grove.

Then this kind expression
She made unto me:
"If you will consent, sir,
To stay here with me,
And go no more roving
Upon the salt sea,
I'll teach you the language
Of the lass of Mohea!"

"Oh, no! My dear maiden,
That never could be;
For I have a true love
In my own country.
And I'll not forsake her,
For I know she loves me,
And her heart is as true
As the pretty Mohea."

'Twas early one morning,
A morning in May,
That to this fair maiden
These words I did say:
"I'm going to leave you,
So farewell, my dear;
My ship's sails are spreading
And home I must steer."

The last time I saw her
She stood on the strand;
And as my boat passed her
She waved me her hand,
Saying: "When you have landed
With the girl that you love,
Think of little Mohea
In the cocoanut grove."

And then when I landed
On my own native shore,
With friends and relatives
Around me once more,
I gazed all about me—
Not one could I see,
That was fit to compare
With my pretty Mohea.

And the girl that I trusted
Proved untrue to me;
So I'll turn my course backward
Far o'er the deep sea.
I'll turn my course backward,
From this land I'll flee;
I'll go spend my days
With my pretty Mohea.

The Model Church

Well, wife, I've found the model church,
And worshiped there today;
It made me think of good old times,
Before my hair was gray.

The meeting-house was finer built
Than they were years ago,
But then I found when I went in
It was not built for show.

The sexton did not set me down
Away back by the door;
He knew that I was old and deaf,
And saw that I was poor.

He must have been a Christian man,
He led me boldly through
The long aisle of that crowded church
To find a pleasant pew.

I wish you'd heard the singing, wife,
It had the old-time ring;
The preacher said with trumpet voice:
"Let all the people sing."
"Old Coronation" was the tune,
The music upward rolled,
Till I thought I heard the angel choir
Strike all their harps of gold.

My deafness seemed to melt away,
My spirit caught the fire;
I joined my feeble, trembling voice
With that melodious choir.

And sang as in my youthful days,
"Let angels prostrate fall,
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him, Lord of all."

'Twas not a flowery sermon, wife,
But simple gospel truth;
It fitted humble men like me,
It suited hopeful youth.

To win immortal souls to Christ
The earnest preacher tried,
He talked not of himself, or creed,
But Jesus crucified.

Dear wife, the toil will soon be o'er,
The victory soon be won;
The shining land is just ahead,
Our race is nearly run.

We're nearing Canaan's happy shore,
Our home so bright and fair;
Thank God, we'll never sin again,
"There'll be no sorrow there,
In heaven above where all is love,
There'll be no sorrow there."

We Are Seven

By William Wordsworth.

I met a little cottage girl,
She was eight years old, she said;
Her hair was thick with many a curl
That clustered round her head.

She had a rustic woodland air,
And she was wildly clad;
Her eyes were fair, and very fair,
Her beauty made me glad.

"Sisters and brothers, little maid,
How many may you be?"
"How many? Seven in all," she said,
And wondering looked at me.

"And where are they? I pray you tell;
She answered, "Seven are we,
And two of us at Conway dwell,
And two are gone to sea.

"Two of us in the churchyard lie—
My sister and my brother;
And in the churchyard cottage I
Dwell near them with my mother."

"You say that two at Conway dwell,
And two are gone to sea;
Yet we are seven! I pray you tell,
Sweet maid, how this may be."

Then did the little maid reply:
"Seven boys and girls are we;
Two of us in the churchyard lie,
Beneath the churchyard tree."

"You run about, my little maid,
Your limbs they are alive;
If two are in the churchyard laid,
Then ye are only five."

"Their graves are green, they may be seen,"
The little maid replied;
"Twelve steps or more from my mother's door,
And they are side by side.

"My stockings there I often knit,
My kerchief there I hem;
And there upon the ground I sit,
I sit and sing to them.

"And often after sunset, sir,
When it is light and fair,
I take my little porringer,
And eat my supper there.

"The first that died was little Jane;
In bed she moaning lay,
Till God released her of her pain,
And then she went away.

"So in the churchyard she was laid,
And when the grass was dry,
Together round her grave we played,
My brother John and I.

"And when the ground was white with snow,
And I could run and slide,
My brother John was forced to go,
And he lies by her side."

"How many are you then," said I,
"If they two are in heaven?"
The little maiden did reply,
"Oh, Master, we are seven!"

"But they are dead, those two are dead,
Their spirits are in heaven!"
'Twas throwing words away, for still
The little maid would have her will,
And said, "Nay, we are seven!"

Barbara Allan

(Scotch Version.)

It was in and about the Mart'mas time,
When the green leaves were a fallin',
That Sir John Graham, in the west countries,
Fell in love wi' Barbara Allan.

He sent his man down through the town,
To the place where she was dwallin',
Oh, haste and come to my master dear,
Gin ye be Barbara Allan.

Oh, slowly, slowly rase she up,
To the place where he was lyin',
And when she drew the curtain by,
"Young man, I think ye're lyin'."

"It's oh, I'm sick, I'm very sick,
And it's a' for Barbara Allan;
O, the better, for me ye'se never be
Though your heart's blud were a-spillin'."

"O, dinna ye mind, young man," she said,
"When ye was in the tavern a-drinkin',
That ye made the healths gae round and round,
And slichtit Barbara Allan?"

He turned his face upon the wa',
And death was with him dealin',
"Adieu, adieu, my dear friends a',
And be kind to Barbara Allan."

And slowly, slowly rase she up,
And slowly, slowly left him,
And sighin' said, she could not stay,
Since deyth of life had reit him.

She hadna gane a mile but twa,
When she heard the deid-bell ringin',
And every jow the deid-bell gi'ed,
It cried, "Wae to Barbara Allan!"

"O mother, mother! mak' my bed,
And mak' it saft and narrow;
Since my love died for me today
I'll die for him tomorrow."

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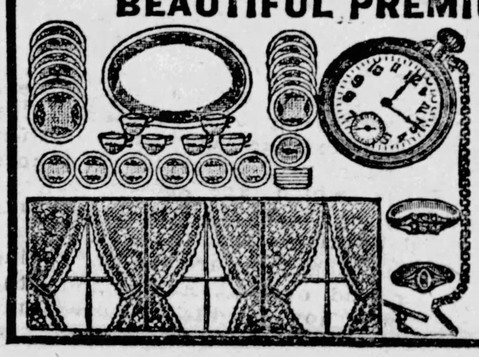

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HOUSEHOLD and CHILDREN

Conquering the Fear of Death

The International Sunday School Lesson for March 27 Is "The Living Christ" (Easter Lesson).—Matt. 28:1-10, 16-20.

BY WILLIAM T. ELLIS.

A WHOLESALE struggle with death is being waged in China as these words are being penned; there fifteen million persons are at close grips with starvation. It seems incongruous to write upon the joyous Easter theme when the clamors of the mortally hungry are to be heard in such an enormous volume of woe, with the wailing of women beside the unco'ffined dead as a minor undertone; when such decades of suffering and hopelessness are being crowded into a few months. Yet after all, it is when we draw nearest to death, where the dread secret of existence hides, that we see it in its full magnitude and symmetry and splendor the glorious hope of immortality.

William T. Ellis

In the famine field even a careless observer sees that they who are without God are without hope in the world. Lacking this factor which lies at the basis of all the thought of Christendom, men become as beasts in their efforts to preserve within their breasts the vital spark. Almost every hour of a journey through China in the time of even a minor famine one encounters some new story of the awful price that people are paying in order to preserve their existence. That they fill their stomachs with leaves and roots is not to be wondered at; nor yet that they push and scramble and fight for a dole of their rice gruel at the relief stations. Years ago I saw an American rescue a little girl and an old, old woman who were being crushed in this way; and I saw an old man and woman who had thus been seriously injured by the mob which crowded for food.

It would be easy for me to fill this column with stories of such selfishness on the part of people who have no sustaining faith or exalted Christian principles in this life and who do not feel any hope of life after death. All are pertinent illustrations of the Easter truth that the glorious hope of a resurrection is one of the potent factors in what we call civilized conduct. Take this out of the consciousness of Christendom and you lower society to the level of China in famine.

The Best Life or the Beast Life.

Sane old Paul, who saw straight and thoroughly into a subject, knew this when he said, in proving the nature of the doctrine of the resurrection, "If the dead are not raised, let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die." Without the truth of the spirit's immortality man exchanges the best life for the beast life. If death ends all, then all is not worth while. Again to quote Paul, the person whose soul is not sustained by this dear hope of a life beyond the grave, is "of all men most pitiable."

Why are thousands of men and women thronging New York's "Great White Way" every night? They are seeking "life." Why is the famous board walk of Atlantic City crowded today? The promenaders are after "life." How explain the full steamers that ply like ferries across the oceans? Travelers are after "life." For what reason are American men driven by the money madness that blights our time? They hope to win "life." How may we explain the craze of many kinds of persons to get their names into the newspapers? They think that that spells "life." Look into the theatres, the restaurants, and the hotels of the great cities, and still you see this wild pursuit of "life." Today's quest of all quests is this lust for "life."

Pathetically many are on the wrong trail. They are dazzled by false fires, and in their blindness they affix the label "life" to much that savors of death. The delusion and disappointment of the multitudes who have sacrificed real values for sham is a spectacle that saddens all beholding hearts.

The great mass of people who hold to the Easter expectation may not be blind to the truth that the doctrine of the resurrection is constantly severely attacked. With all respect for the scholars who are troubled upon this point, it must be borne in mind that this attempt to discredit the resurrection of Jesus is not, as they fondly believe, "advanced theology;" it has been one of the favorite endeavors of Satan ever since the wonder-stricken women beheld the empty tomb in Joseph's garden.

The unique character of Christianity is that it really offers life. Other faiths have varying rewards, but Christ's Gospel maintains the stupendous claim that it has life to impart right here and now. True, He offers eternal life, lasting through two worlds, but that life begins in the present.

Because of the Easter teaching that old, old enemy of the race, the fear of death, is driven out of the Christian's thought. Again and again Christians have taught the world what it is to die unfearingly; ancient Rome trembled before that spectacle, and China is today witnessing it in the conduct of the missionaries who are going among the famine sufferers, distributing relief. For it is the Christian's privilege to master the fear of death. Because Jesus has risen from the dead, and because he also expects one day to rise, he can cry, "O grave, where is thy victory? O death, where is thy sting?"

Christ comes to the empty, echoing, aching hearts of men and proffers His great gift of life—life rich and ever richer. Christianity stands for a new mind, a new spirit, a new animus, a new genius; essentially, a new life. "The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit and they are life."

Conquerors and the Conqueror.

The high point of the present lesson, as, indeed, of all Christian teaching, is the victory of Christ over death. That was His final victory. But His whole life may be studied as a series of conquests. He has often been compared with the other great conquerors of history: Pharoah, Xerxes, Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne, Tamarlane, Napoleon.

But what a difference! Mr. John Wanamaker owns a painting of gigantic size called The Conquerors. It is of compelling interest and one returns to it again and again. There rides the bannered host of strong-faced men, who have dreamed the dream of world dominion. But they ride through a lane of dead. Stark and stiff, two lines of corpses stretch on both sides of them. It was by pain, loss, sorrow and death that they came to their power.

But imagine the Christ-Conqueror's triumphal march. Little children throng His feet. He rides, meek and lowly, upon the humblest of animals. The garments of the glad and the grateful strew His way. The hosannas of the healed and the happy rend the air. The lame leap, the blind see; the lepers are cleansed; the dead are back from the tomb. The line is longer than mind can compass, for there now follow in His train a countless multitude of those whom He has redeemed and made to rejoice. And chained to His conquering chariot, a craven captive, is the race's old master, death.

Rome is a city of ruins that remain to remind us of imperial Caesars. What toppled over the unparalleled dominion? The simple news of a crucified, risen Savior. One of the characteristic sights of Rome, which is somewhat grotesque from an artistic standpoint, is yet full of symbolism: the pre-Christian obelisks and pillars that have been surmounted by bronze crosses. Paul in the Mamertine prison, a dark and terrible dungeon which the visitors today may see, had more power than Nero in his golden palace; and he is today held in great honor. For he spoke a living message, whereas Nero merely wielded material force.

What all the world needs today above everything else is to know the truth of the Gospel that transforms life into newness and love and power and beauty: which is the resurrection message. Our times do not call for a new religion, but only for a new expression of the old reality that Christ, who rose from the dead, can take these poor, grave-bound lives of ours and give them the very glory of immortality. The resurrection message—"If ye then be risen with Christ, see those things which are above"—can do more for the world than agreements and treaties.

The magazines are fond of telling over and over at Easter time the story of how the little Pennsylvania town of Bethlehem celebrates the advent of Easter. The Moravians hail the dawn with a trumpet chorus from the church steeples. Then to the graveyards they go, playing triumphant music. Their Easter faith is songful; it sounds the refrain of victory. In that faith the early Christians so conducted themselves that the onlooking heathen were moved to cry: "Behold how these Christians love one another!"

Short and Sweet

"I think you and the Short and Sweet column are the very nicest parts of The Blade." Wasn't that a nice thing for even a Rose of Araby to say to Aunt Martha? This rose only came to bring us some requested poems and to say "hello" to you. Said that if she might be allowed to say just so much, she would promise not to come again. But that doesn't suit us at all, she writes such clever letters.

Miss Giggle lived up to her name and just giggled her whole letter through. She didn't want to sit near Cowboy or Billie Boy for fear there might be a fight, and chose a seat near Patches instead. She claims that Billie doesn't know much about girls—that a tomboy may still care for her personal appearance and do housewifely things, too. She warned Lavant that he would not find his ideal on this planet, but would have to seek her where "angels grow." She is one of the many wanting to hear from Fred Sleath again, and also inquired for R. G. E. of Lake View, Mich. Miss Giggle said that if Prairie Rose were with her, she would have to take one of the farm horses to ride in the mud, which is very deep just now, apropos of which she admitted that of course it would be West Virginia mud. Her state is lovely in the summer, she thinks, but doesn't like the mud of this time of year. Speaking of ideals made this merry little soul decide that she was going to be a spinster and she suggests an Old Maid Club for Blade girls. Humpty Dumpty voiced her sentiments.

You should have sat next to Happy-Go-Lucky if that "happy" soul hadn't been bounded on the north, south, east and west by "earlier birds" than you, dear Eliza Elizabeth Thomas of Mimie, W. Va., who came to us once before as "Elizabeth of W. Va." Elizabeth would be glad if some of you boys or girls would send her three songs, The Long, Long Trail, the Baggage Coach Ahead and Pearl Bryan.

Your being "awful good" just couldn't squeeze you in, this time, Gene of Va., although we wanted to make a place for you just as much as ever you could want to come in. Gene says that it is her "temperament" to want a lot of friends and we are very sure that she must attract them, after reading her letter. Gene asked about a "twin"—twenty years old the 29th of June. She liked your letters, Pat of Tenn., and is hoping for some more.

"May two little country girls join your merry circle," inquired Two Schoolmates of Ohio. But surely yes, my dears, when they are as sweet as you! These schoolmates live near a little town among the hills of southern Ohio and that's a lovely spot—Aunt Martha knows. They both agree with you about a kind heart often being found beneath humble garb, Bachelor Billy! Don't you feel all "set up" These little girls are only 14 and 15 years old, so they say they have not thought much about ideals, yet.

Typewritten an' ever'thing was the nice little letter Sunshine of North Carolina sent us—a perfect sunbeam of a letter. Reading, riding, driving and "'most everything" makes her more sunshiny than ever. She said that if she were not afraid that the waste basket would claim her as its own, she would stop to describe some of the beauties of her state, which, she says, is the garden spot of the world. As it was, Sunshine didn't linger with us long, but danced away, calling a greeting to Farmer Lass with whom she agrees.

Forget-Me-Not of Pennsylvania, thinks, too, that we need a pin or button to tell everyone that we are members of the same big Blade family. She says that her ideal is just a "gentleman" in all that the word implies. The names of ever so many of you were on her lips, hoping to summon you back among us—some of you have been absent altogether too long, she thinks—although she is a forget-me-not—and we agree with her. The especial little blue-eyed flower has bloomed in her parents' garden for 18 years, and we don't believe she is one bit faded for all that—she didn't look so to our flower-loving eyes.

BOYS AND GIRLS

In the dark silence of her chamber March works out sweeter things than mortals know.
—May Riley Smith.

Matilda Ann's Been Thinking.

I called once before and was not admitted, so I thought that I would try my luck again. I am enclosing a song that was requested by one of The Blade readers. Charlie and Pearl Kence, you have my sympathy. Why not write another letter to The Blade soon? Your other letter was splendid. I'm sure that if more would find a little time each day to read and study the Bible as you do, we would have a better world to live in. Seems as if so many people of today think little about anything else but money. They are always scheming and planning how they can get more money. Money is the root of all evil. Of course we all know that one has to have money to buy food and clothing and other necessary things, but money should not become an idol, as it is for some, I fear. Let's all be sure that our hearts are right with God so that when death claims us we will hear the Lord say, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." Boys and girls, your letters are very interesting. I sincerely hope that you all find your ideals in due time. Housewife, your letter was fine; come again. Let us not forget the aged and helpless. Don't wait until they are dead to put flowers on their graves. The dead don't appreciate flowers. Rather let us strew their paths with flowers while they are living and capable of appreciating them. Just a smile or a kind word will cheer them along. I would like to hear Bible subjects discussed more. I believe it would cause the young folks as well as the older ones to read the Bible more. I believe that it is usual to give a description of oneself in their first visit, but I'll not this time, as I did before. So you see that is why W. B. got me. I will be going now as I have stayed quite long enough for a first visit. With love to all.—Matilda Ann.

A Good "Mark."

Hello, folks! Here I am again, and first of all I want to invite "Miss Humpty Dumpty" to come again. "Miss Humpty Dumpty," your letter certainly pleased me. We not only agree about sports, but we do about "coffin-nails." I, too, am "sot" against them and always shall be. Oh, yes, I promised to tell you something more about myself when I came again, didn't I? Well, I am six feet tall—and some more, do not use tobacco in any form, never drink a drop of intoxicating liquor in my life, and, thanks to Prohibition, I am never tempted now, never use profane language, and love my mother as I love no other person. My age is between 17 and 20. My exact age I will leave for the rest of the cousins to guess. Now I know my description corresponds with several of the Cousins' ideals, but I am sure that not all of you would claim me on sight. I think it would be a fine idea to have a club pin for The Blade cousins. What does Aunt Martha think of the idea? Well, as the waste basket is eyeing me, I will quit with the promise never to bother Aunt Martha again if she doesn't want me. God bless her and all the cousins.—E. Z. Mark of Ohio.

Keystone "Drops In."

Aunt M-M-Martha, m-may I c-come in? Is D-Dixie M-Moon B-Beam about? Talk about being scared into a conniption fit—I almost have hysterics. "Lay on, Macduff!" But I'll be joe-swiggered if you are going to make me yell if you stick that thorny rose into me. Say, Bachelor Billy, did I step on something? I imagine I hear a rustling in Old Virginny, "'way down yonder in the corn field." I don't know whether there was a charge of T. N. T. exploded under me or not, but I feel all flustered. What kind of a stone am I? Not a "mossback," as you have designated me, honey, but a moss agate. Why is a bachelor so conceited? Well, you mistake the symptoms. If a bachelor were to fall in love every time a pretty girl looked at him, and then go tell, as you claim, there would be so much hair-pulling that all the girls, and the bachelors too, would be bald-headed. Then there would be some more conniptions. Say, B. B., I wasn't dreaming when I stepped in alongside of you, I was going to pull the phials of wrath down on my own head, but say, I am mighty glad that I was able to relieve you of that much of the assault that was headed your way. If you'll say, "thank you," I am sure that I will be able to stand it. Where are you, Lavant, and you, Honorable Patches, Johnny Funnyman, Moon Winks and Blooming Prairie Rose? Did your pony, Silver, unhorse you and give you such a bad fall that you are invalided? Oh, no, Dixie Moonbeam, I am not too old to climb mountains, and I would just love to climb to the topmost branch of your lonesome pine, take a seat beside you on the most elevated cone and talk to you in the moonlight. Do you see any signs of a conniption in that? Farmer Boy of Georgia, you are very generous in allowing me to choose my own weapons, upon challenging me to mortal combat, and since you have been so considerate, I too will be generous. Oh, no danger of my running away. I am not the running kind. Since bones were the occasion of your challenge, I will select bones as the weapons of combat, the particular kind to be wishbones. I select as my seconds Dixie Moonbeam and Bachelor Billy, and would be very much in favor of having Aunt Martha as referee. Do you think my heart is in the right place, Aunt Martha? Now, Cousins, if you do not stand by me I'll go over to the M. G. R. and appeal to the Old Jigger from up the Krick. I know that he'll stick by me because he is a Keystone, too. Say, Aunt Martha, this is my last letter (or thrust, whichever the Cousins choose to call it) so I hope that you will give this room as my one and only reply to D. M. and all other critics, and I shall be satisfied to let her have the last word, and thank her for having taken notice of—The Keystone Bachelor.

CARDS AND LETTERS.

Perhaps you would enjoy corresponding with these boys and girls: Philip and Pearl Marshall, Ocala, Va.; Lulu and Tom Linville and George Bias, Bernie, Lincoln Co., W. Va.; Marie Bourne, Rosedale, W. Va.; Clarence Marks, Coy Gandee, Harry and Thelma Lowe, Otie and Ina Stracher, Gandeeville, W. Va.; Lula Hockman and Ethel Smith, Hay, W. Va.; Leta Haines, Augusta, W. Va.; Mary Facemyer, Box 38, Elkview, W. Va.; Roy Davis, Federal, Pleasant Co., W. Va.; Alva Richmond, Harry J. Wilson, Charles Lively, all of Ballengee, W. Va.; Stella McCutcheon, R. D. 3, Reedy, W. Va.; Grant Fowler, Mollie McCune, Eddie and Joseph Kerby, Cremo, W. Va.; Homer Smith, Noah Luras, Albert Duskey, Alva Bell, Creston, W. Va.; Bill Rader, Howard Summerville and Jim and Howard Sutphin, Richardson, W. Va.

Peach Stains Defied

Peach stains can be removed from table linen by using fine glycerine. Leave the glycerine in the stains for a short time, and then wash the linen in clean water.

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SYMPTOMS WOMEN DREAD

Mrs. Wilson's Letter Should Be Read by All Women

Clearfield, Pa.—"After my last child was born last September I was unable to do all of my own work. I had severe pains in my left side every month and had fever and sick dizzy spells and such pains during my periods, which lasted two weeks. I heard of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound doing others so much good and thought I would give it a trial. I have been very glad that I did, for now I feel much stronger and do all of my work. I tell my friends when they ask me what helped me, and they think it must be a grand medicine. And it is. You can use this letter for a testimonial if you wish." —Mrs. HARRY A. WILSON, R. F. D. 5, Clearfield, Pa.

The experience and testimony of such women as Mrs. Wilson prove that Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound will correct such troubles by removing the cause and restoring the system to a normal condition. When such symptoms develop as backache, bearing-down pains, displacements, nervousness and "the blues" a woman cannot act too promptly in trying Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound.

RURAL WELFARE

EDITED BY A. P. SANDLES

FRONT SEATS EMPTY— Lean Crowds at Church

Can a church prosper where the back seats in a meeting house fill up first and leave the front seats empty?

Can a preacher preach and reach over a lot of empty pews and do any good to the cold and clammy crowd roosting on the rear benches?

Is it worth while to go to church and be a back-seater every time you go? We heard several young folks say they were not going to church this evening because it is a little late and the back seats will all be full.

One way to get the front seats full is to charge for the back benches and make the front perches free. The same rule will hold good for other kinds of meetings. On Easter Sunday some of the new hats like to sit in a front seat so as to be sure to hear what the preacher has to say.

Most churches ought to have ushers who would see to it that the congregation gets just as close to the preacher as possible. We will admit that it is better to be found on a front seat than not to be in the meeting at all. If you want the best there is in the preacher, do not discourage him by having a lot of empty seats in front of him. He just can't get steam up unless his hearers warm up a little. Some of the back-seaters may need an asbestos cloak when they climb the golden stairs.

By the way, we saw a picture the other day. It represented the Golden Stairs. There were a lot of folks on those steps. They were all women. Not a man in the crowd. Did a man or woman paint the picture?

THEY LOST MONEY— Grain Elevator Company

Loss in 1920 was $18,000. Went in debt last year $120,000. Many thousands of bushels of grain on hand. This grain cost a lot more than it now can be sold for. Some discontent and friction in co-operative organization. Outlook not very good for the coming year. A disposition on the part of many members to get out and go back to the old way of doing business. Let one man own, run and take all responsibility of grain markets.

This was the story of a co-operative company which had three hundred farmers in its membership. Rural Welfare editor was invited to attend and address the annual meeting of this company. We went. We found rather a blue bunch of citizens. They had been told that co-operative grain companies would make them more money than the old way, where the middleman or commission man was getting rich on the grain the farmer grew.

These three hundred farmers thought they were the only folks who had been hit by business depression. We soon got them to thinking about and seeing the other fellows' troubles. All business had more or less a flat tire right now. Some had suffered a whole lot more than the farmer had been hit.

We reminded this farm folk crowd that the smart commission men had done everything they could to get farmers to quarrel and discouraged. We told that if there ever was a time when they should not lower their flag it was right now. Fight it out if it takes two years or three years. Get free from the handcuffs of those who want to make more profit on grain in ten minutes than the farmer can make in ten months.

Some of the agents of these smart fellows had planted some poison to arouse quarrels and create dissatisfaction with the way the business had been conducted. They sought to create prejudice against the manager and board of directors. This is an old trick. As a rule it works and farmers fall into the trap. The smart fellows know their cake is dough if the farmers stick together. "Divide the hayseeds, then break their necks," is the remark we heard one city smart chap make when he was cussing and discussing the farmer's grain elevator scheme.

We left this bunch of farmers in much better humor than we found them. They felt that they had shared no worse than other folks had suffered in other lines of business. They voted to keep their flag flying for another year.

ASPIRIN

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Warning! Unless you see the name "Bayer" on package or on tablets you are not getting genuine Aspirin prescribed by physicians for twenty-one years and proved safe by millions. Take Aspirin only as told in the Bayer package for Colds, Headache, Neuralgia, Rheumatism, Earache, Toothache, Lumbago and for Pain. Handy tin boxes of twelve Bayer Tablets of Aspirin cost few cents. Druggists also sell larger packages. Aspirin is the trade mark of Bayer Manufacture of Monoaceticacidester of Salicylicacid.

A MAD FOX HUNTER— A Hill-Billy Story

"What fools we mortals be. Some dunces insist on killing foxes, skunks and black snakes, and then swear about mice and other pests that ruin crops and trees. I am a friend of the fox. I am bitterly opposed to these fox hunts where a whole neighborhood surrounds and closes in on the helpless fox. It is a crime to brutally kill a fox. I want to hunt the animal with trained dogs and have a good race. I want the fox to outwit and outrun the hounds. I like to hear the music of the pack as it races after the fox over hill, through dale and dell. I have hounds that run all night. Both they and the fox enjoy the chase. Sometimes I think the sly old Reynard intentionally torments the dogs in the chase and plays tricks on them. No man who kills a fox can ever get the vote or good will of a real fox hunter. We buy foxes and turn them loose for the purpose of having a fox chase, but not for fox murder."

These remarks were made to Rural Welfare editor by an old-time fox hunter who had lived in the hills and mountains the most of his life. We listened to him talk of the virtues of the fox for nearly an hour. He said the fox got one of his chickens now and then, but that fact did not prejudice him against it.

He was severe in his criticisms of those who engaged in the big roundup fox hunts that are frequently staged in a county or a community, where the objects of the hunts were two-fold, sport and less foxes.

No doubt those who engage in these big closing-in hunts think they are just as good sports as this old hill-billy, who is a friend of and not the enemy of the fox.

This old sport was just as severe in his scolding of those who killed skunks and blacksnakes. He says that both of these are harmless and of real benefit to the farm and garden. He insisted that the biggest blacksake that ever grew never harmed anybody and could not be tormented enough to make it want to hurt anybody.

The blacksnake and the skunk are good policemen for the farmer and his crops. The prejudice against snakes and the fear of the odor of the skunk should not prevent man from giving both animals a square deal in his judgment toward them.

We wonder how many Blade readers will agree and disagree with this old hillbilly sport who says what he thinks whether any of us like what he says or not.

BOOST STATE FAIR— Keystone State Lagging

Some years ago, Rural Welfare editor accepted an invitation to address farmers and members of the legislature of the state of Pennsylvania. We were asked to make an appeal for a state fair for the great Keystone state. It is the one big state that does not have an exposition.

Pennsylvania has a number of splendid county fairs. The managers of these county fairs have always opposed having a state fair. They have had enough influence with the big politicians to defeat every bill that has so far been presented to establish a state fair.

The county fair men are wrong in their belief that a state fair would hurt the county show. The experience of every state has been that a good state show always helps the county fairs of a state.

In his last speech, made on the Buffalo Exposition grounds, President McKinley said, "Every fair and exposition, great or small, has helped in some onward progress."

IS MAN A MONKEY— What Is the Missing Link?

Was mankind once a monkey or a snake, or a wriggling mess and mass without eyes, ears, toes or nose?

Where did man start anyhow? What was our origin? Whence came we and whither bound? are two big questions which have been answered in many ways.

We have just received a booklet from our old friend, Wm. J. Bryan, who is at home at Miami, Florida. This booklet is written by Mr. Bryan under the title of The Menace of Darwinism.

Charles Darwin, credited as being a scientist, was the author of books that pretend to trace the origin of man back to the monkey family and even back to reptiles and other creeping things.

Darwin thus discredits the Scriptures and the doctrine that "God created man in His own image." Mr. Bryan calls attention to the fact that many college and university professors preach and teach the theory of Darwin instead of teaching and preaching the doctrine of the Scriptures.

Mr. Bryan is inclined to the belief that much of the unbelief and skepticism of today have their sourceh in these places of so called higher education. The book is a warning and well worth the time of every good citizen to read.

We have no authority to say that Mr. Bryan would send this book for the asking, but it is worth a post card or a letter to him in his southern home. It is the latest message from the Commoner.

STOP A MINUTE— Are We Headed Right?

We are spending a lot of money on schools. We increase salary of teachers when crops and wages were high. We issue bonds and go in debt for magnificent school buildings. We purchase every modern article of equipment that is for sale.

We go ahead and centralize and throw away the old time school house by the country roadside. We are giving teachers pensions and old age allowances.

We have taken good care of teachers. We have builded great temples and dedicated them in the cause of education. The big question is; "Are we doing anything for the boys and girls?"

Rural Welfare editor has made many inquiries about the qualification and scholarship of teachers. We know that in many places the interest of pupils is the last thing to be considered.

Thorough and efficient scholarship cannot be given to pupil by teacher unless the teacher has scholarship. We have gotten away from the old time examinations that to some degree tested the scholarship of the applicant who wanted to teach.

We have found pupils in high schools helpless when asked to solve ordinary problems in fifth and sixth grade aritmetic. We have found them helpless in correcting common errors in every day sentences of the English language. We have talked with teachers who freely confess that they have not mastered the common branches of school study.

School houses, big salaries, centralization, old age pensions, furniture and fixtures will not give our boys and girls an education if scholarship is lacking.

Education will not be the blessing it ought to be if we fail to have teachers who live a moral life or fail to give the pupil the inspiration that some of our old time teachers once gave to boys and to girls.

Rural Welfare editor wants to say that school boards are not doing their duty in many places. They let somebody do their thinking. They take a teacher because somebody has a pull with them. School boards have become entirely too careless in the matter of making sure that their teachers have scholarships.

School boards vote and pay bills. They should stop, look and listen, now and then. Let them take invoice and see if somebody is making rubber stamps out of them and pulling the wool over their eyes.

We know that parents and school boards would be surprised and mad if a committee of two or three competent persons would walk into any ordinary school room and submit a very mild examination to the pupils, according to grades. This would show whether the teacher was giving real service. The good teacher would not object to this kind of a test.

Too many poor teachers cover up poor teaching by giving easy examinations and good grades to pupils. This trick throws parents off the track and of guard. School superintendents are anxious to keep up appearances and have no friction. The inspectors that come from the state department of education are often ornaments. They are often afraid to make anybody mad and want to keep their job safe.

We have half a dozen children in school. We are vitally interested in the welfare of our schools and our children. We pay a good chunk of school taxes every year. Our schoolbook expense is considerable. The future of our children is of first importance and should be with every parent.

We used to teac hschoollsHRD We used to teach school. It is natural for old fogy teachers to find fault with the new order of things. We have always been the strong friend of the schools and the teachers. We always like to say a good word for them in our public talks. But we are sure that the most important thing we can have in school is a good teacher with good scholarship and good morals. Do you agree with us?

THE LACK OF NEWS— Dirt Dollars Lonesome

Do you know what is going on at your state experiment station? Do you know what you get from the dollar that the state legislature votes for experiment station work? The chances are you know mighty little about these dirt dollars.

The big drawback about these state experiment stations is that the men who run them get too busy with their field and test work and do not give attention to getting their message to the farmers who need to know the results of experiment and experience.

Our country newspapers should have a weekly letter in their columns fifty-two times a year, giving their readers a message from the state station. The director of these stations should have a punch-and-peppy man or woman to furnish this news letter to every newspaper in the state.

As a rule the men who devote their lives to research work and who discover the things that make the world go forward, are the poorest and the slowest fellows in the world to make any noise about what they do.

The taxpayer who pays these dirt dollars ought to insist on getting a message every week from his experiment station. These messages should be written and said in common sense language so that farmers will have an appetite to digest them. Salt, pepper, sugar and cream should be used on every story sent out from the station.

The big trouble with these station fellows, is they are thinking of some other scientific high brow in some other station, and they try and do use language to hit and knock him off his perch instead of really giving a plain every day message to the farm and farmer who need it.

For instance, Rural Welfare editor had occasion, once upon a time, to review and edit a story that had been written for the farmer and was to be published. The subject was agricultural limestone. The expert had said, "Pulverized limestone will correct and floculate the soil." We changed this sentence to read, "Agstone will sweeten dirt and knock hell out of clods."

The sentences mean exactly the same thing. We know the farmer will understand what we mean, the way we say it. We had to get the big book of a dictionary and look up the meaning of the word "floculate" before we knew what the expert was talking about.

Why not write to the director of your experiment station and ask him to send a weekly letter to your home or farm paper? Why not ask the editor of the papers you read to ask the state station to send such a letter for publication? "Ask and you shall receive." Do it now.

THE TAX PUZZLE— Ohio Must Meet It Again

Ohio, like other states, has a big tax puzzle. The Buckeye state went on a big spending spree. It piled up a big debt on its counties, towns and cities. Its school boards went bankrupt in many places. Then the fiddler asked for his pay. Like old Mother Hubbard, he went to the cupboard and the bank account was low, practically exhausted.

In 1919, the tax dodgers and the tax spenders tried to put over an amendment to the constitution to classify property for taxation. This tax dodging scheme was denounced by leaders of farm bureau, grange and home owners. It was shown up to be a rotten plat to make farm and home owners pay more tax and the other fellow less tax. These farm leaders hit the tax dodgers and tax spenders a terrific blow. Ohio has 88 counties. All but seven of these counties voted against the amendment.

The farmers, by all acting together, smashed the city bosses and the boodlers who used money and every means possible to carry the vote for classification. This was the first time that the farmers of Ohio had all stood together. They won. They saved themselves from the tax dodgers' scheme.

Now there is a plan on foot to rob the farmers of their great victory which they won two years ago. The city bosses and big political machines are offering jobs and other inducements to get the farmers into a trap. But the farmer is not so easily fooled as he used to be.

It will be worth while for the whole country to watch the farmers of Ohio fight the political bosses, the tax dodgers and the tax spenders.

How To Revitalize Wornout Exhausted Nerves

Your nerve power depends on plenty of good, rich, red blood of the kind that organic iron—Nuxated Iron—helps make. Nuxated Iron is like the iron in your blood and like the iron in spinach, lentils and apples, while metallic iron is iron just as it comes from the action of strong acids on iron filings. Nuxated Iron does not injure the teeth nor upset the stomach; it is an entirely different thing from ordinary metallic iron. It quickly helps make rich, red blood, revitalize wornout, exhausted nerves and give you new strength and energy. Over 4,000,000 people annually are using it. Beware of substitutes. Always insist upon having genuine organic iron—Nuxated Iron. Look for the letters N. I. on every tablet. Sold by all druggists.

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Its successful treatment without use of the knife. Hundreds of satisfied patients testify to this method. Write for free book. Tells how to care for patients suffering from cancer. Address DR. W. O. BYE, Kansas City, Mo.
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At low cost additional you can now get the new WITTE Tree Saw Equipment — changes Log Saw to Tree Saw. Saws down trees any size.

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Don't buy any Log Saw, Tree Saw or Buzz Saw Outfit until you have seen the new WITTE. Lowest priced Guaranteed rig on the market. Cuts much faster than former rigs. On tests we cut 2-ft. log in 90 seconds. Tree saw cuts 'em close to the ground. Goes anywhere. We are making a special advertising price NOW—So write at once for complete description of this wonderful outfit FREE. BRANCH BUZZ SAW $23.50.

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BRITAIN SIGNS RUSSIAN PACT

Signatures Are Affixed to Trade Agreement — Press Differs on Issues Involved.

The trade agreement under which commercial relations will be resumed by Great Britain and Russia was signed in London by representatives of the governments of the two countries.

It was reported the board of trade, after having carried on negotiations with Leonid Krassin, representative of the Russian Bolshevik government, had rewritten several clauses which had presented considerable difficulty in the past. The principle that Russia will cease all propaganda outside of that country, and that England will observe neutrality regarding Russian internal affairs was given due recognition in the clauses which were altered.

The fact that the trade agreement was about to be signed received in the newspapers the controversy regarding the expediency of such a move. The Morning Post, in an editorial captioned: "The unclean thing," vehemently inveighed against the agreement and argued that its signature would "inevitably involve recognition of the soviet regime, which is blackened by every crime and the agents of which are actively plotting the destruction of every civilized state."

"Under this agreement," the newspaper continued, "British traders eventually will become receivers of stolen goods."

The Chronicle, on the other hand, approved of the agreement on the ground that "the world can no longer afford to leave Russia outside the pale of commercial intercourse." The Daily News declared it expected trade with soviet Russia would relieve unemployment in Great Britain saying: "Talk about blood stained gold is the meaningless rhetoric of blind hatred."

BRITISH TO BUILD FOUR BATTLESHIPS IN YEAR

Four British capital warships of the Hood type will be laid down within a year, Sir James Craig, parliamentary and financial secretary to the admiralty announced to the house of commons.

The Hood is a battle cruiser of 41,200 tons normal displacement. She carries eight 15-inch guns, 12 5½-inch guns, four 4-inch anti-aircraft guns, four 3-pounders, and five machine guns and has two submerged torpedo tubes and four above water.

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Sizes 6-13 wide widths.

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Let us send you these shoes on approval. Not a penny's cash from you. When they arrive, try them on, look them over carefully. If they are not what we say, send them back. If you are pleased and satisfied, pay the postman $2.98 and get the best bargain in shoes ever offered. Fill out this coupon and mail today. Thousands are going to seize this opportunity, so do not delay. Send for free catalog.

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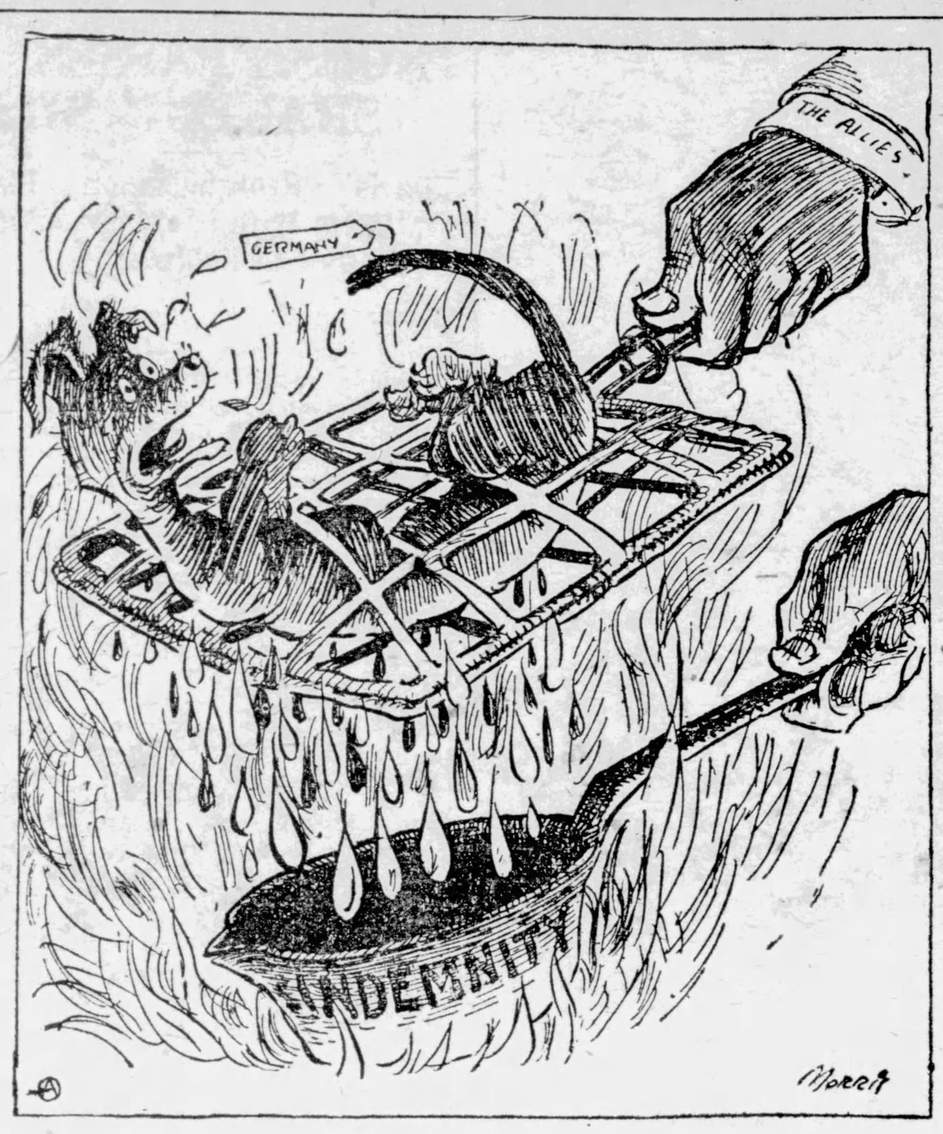


HOT DOG—IT HAS COME TO THIS.

FRANCO-AMERICAN MARRIAGES ARE DISCOURAGED BY NIVELLE

The plight of French women "blinded by the lure of khaki" is prominently discussed in the Paris papers following a statement by General Nivelle.

The famous French soldier said that "Franco-American marriages should not be advocated as a means of spreading French propaganda.

"Such unions are not generally successful," said General Nivelle. "More than 10 per cent of the French brides of American soldiers have already repatriated.

"The reason for this is that although American hospitality charms the traveler, American life is not pleasing to the French women. Many French girls marrying the Yank soldiers believed that all Americans were rich. They were disillusioned when the husband quit the khaki to take up the hard labor in offices and on farms.

"Not knowing the language, the brides found themselves isolated in a country where nobody comprehended them. Furthermore, the brides were shocked at the unhomelike qualities of their American husband and their failure to receive the thousand and one little attentions necessary to the happiness of the French wife."

Rioting Prevalent in Tokio Because of Bribe Charges

Riotous scenes were enacted at a meeting of the Kensei-Kai, or opposition party of Japan, which had gathered in Tokio to discuss a sensational open letter written by Secretary Hirooka of the Seiyu-Kai party, charging Viscount Kato, president of the Kensei-Kai, with accepting a bribe. The meeting was attended by 10,000 persons. When Representative Tomezaburo Shimizu attempted to speak, a dozen men rushed forward and demolished the platform. This induced the excitement and there were many fights in the crowd. The police were forced to intervene, making many arrests.

After the meeting had broken up, a crowd, headed by two autos, marched toward the diet building, which was surrounded by two cordons of police, with hundreds of reserves in nearby streets and parks. The correspondent of the Associated Press sought to traverse this district, but was politely requested to take another street.

Having arrived in the vicinity of the diet building, the crowd was harangued by leaders, who spoke from automobiles. The throng was urged to break through the police cordons, and roaring cheers burst from the crowd which surged forward, but police reserves were hurried up and the manifestants were forced to retire. Their leaders were arrested, while newspaper photographers, perched on monuments and in trees took pictures of the scene.

In the meantime there was greatest excitement within the diet. The peers unanimously adopted a resolution proposed by Ren Nakashoji saying the discipline of the empire disintegrating, the minds of the people in a state of unrest, the nation's prestige abroad impaired and general conditions deplorable. The resolution asserted it was desirable to speedily rectify prevailing evils.

Amidst turbulent scenes, the house of representatives discussed a resolution sponsored by the Kensei-Kai party, censuring the government for the scandal regarding the South Manchurian railway. It was the prevailing opinion that the ministry is confronted with a serious crisis.

BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE PUTS ITS O. K. ON HARVEY

Colonel George Harvey is acceptable to Great Britain as the next American ambassador, it was announced at the British foreign office.

Many Good Offices Will Be Given to Women by Harding

Women are going to play an important part in the Harding administration. The President not only has been won over completely to the plan of establishing a special women's department of the government, with a woman cabinet member at its head, but plans to outdo all other administrations in appointing women to important positions.

This was revealed by Harriet Taylor Upton, a member of the Republican national committee. Incidentally, Mrs. Upton, who has charge of all women's activities under the national committee and has been generally conceded as "first in line" for the choicest plum, does not want to hold office.

"I would rather be in the thick of political doings," she explained. "Therefore I prefer my present job.

"President Harding will go slow about appointments of women, which is right. There is no excuse for appointing women to any position because they are women and without regard to their special qualifications.

"The need of a branch of the government devoted to the interests of women is obvious. At present such work is scattered among many departments, the nearest approach to centralization being in the children's bureau of the Labor Department, presided over by Miss Julia Lathrop. But work of a humanitarian sort that should be gathered under one department, such as I have outlined, is scattered all over the administrative machinery and ought to be concentrated."

Movie Is Censored by Telephone by Ingenious Quakers

The Pennsylvania board of moving picture censors, in session at Philadelphia, employed the telephone to censor a picture in Pittsburgh. A "movie" billed by a Pittsburgh theatre had not been passed by the board, and in order that the show might be held it was decided to do the censoring by telephone. A telephone circuit between this city and Philadelphia was set up and duplicate films were displayed at both points. As the picture was censored in Philadelphia, the changes desired were telephoned to Pittsburgh.

EMPLOYMENT IS SATISFACTORY

No Unemployment Increase Noted in Latest U. S. Report by Labor Department.

The employment situation in this country is practically stationary, the February survey of conditions made public by the United States employment service of the Department of Labor shows.

In the 64 principal industrial centers of the United States, 1,423 firms which normally employ 500 or more men, employed 1,626,958 workers on Feb. 28, as compared with 1,643,253 workers employed on Jan. 31—a net decrease of 16,295 or 1 per cent. Reports from 36 cities showed a total net decrease of 60,235 workers, while 28 cities reported a net increase of 43,840.

The 36 cities reporting a decrease in employment during February, with the percentage of decrease in each instance, were as follows: Denver, 24.9; Youngstown, 23.6; Indianapolis, 22.1; San Francisco, 16.1; Grand Rapids, 15.2; Schenectady-Albany, N. Y., 14.3; Perth Amboy, N. J., 11.9; Minneapolis, 9.6; Columbus, 8.3; Pittsburgh, 7.9; Seattle, 7.7; Birmingham, 7.3; Sioux City, 6.8; Newark, N. J., 6.1; Omaha, 6.; Bayonne, N. J., 5.5; New Haven, Conn., 5.4; Trenton, N. J., 4.08; Los Angeles, 5.1; Worcester, Mass., 5.; Kansas City, Kans., 4.7; Buffalo, 4.6; Syracuse, 4.2; Philadelphia, 4.; Kansas City, Mo., 3.9; Jersey City, N. J., 3.4; Cleveland, 3.2; Cincinnati, 3.1; Baltimore, 3.; Chicago, 2.9; Springfield, Mass., 2.8; Reading, 2.3; Camden, N. J., 2.; Niagara Falls, N. Y., 1.1; Toledo, .9; Richmond, Va., .3.

The 28 cities showing improved conditions reported the following percentages of increase in employment: Chattanooga, 67.6; Detroit, 34.7; Peoria, 28.6; Johnstown, Pa., 20.6; Bridgeport, Conn., 18.5; Lowell, Mass., .9; Louisville, 8.6; Portland, Ore., 7.4; Manchester, N. H., 6.2; Yonkers, N. Y., 5.6; New Orleans, 5.3; Brockton, Mass., 4.6; Milwaukee, 3.9; Lawrence, Mass., 3.7; New Bedford, Conn., 3.5; Dayton, 3.2; Rochester, N. Y., 3.2; Fall River, Mass., 3.2; St. Paul, 2.8; Memphis, 2.7; St. Louis, 2.6; Atlanta, 2.3; Passaic, N. J., 2.2; New York, 2.; Patterson, N. J., 1.3; Providence, R. I., 5; Flint, Mich., .4; Waterbury, Conn., .4.

Auto Trade Improves.

The automobile industry is making steady progress back to normal, February showing an increase of 17,684 in the number of men employed Feb. 28 as compared with Jan. 31. The percent of increase is 18.8 per cent, a higher rate than any other industry shows for the month. Other industries which show renewed activity report the following per cent of increase in employment during February: textiles, 8.5 per cent; leather and its finished product, 7.7; lumber and its manufacture, 2. per cent; metal and metal products other than iron and steel, .3 per cent.

The industries which report a decrease in employment are: iron, steel and other products, 7.3 per cent; railroad repair shop, 6.6 per cent; chemicals and allied products, 6. per cent; liquor and beverages, 5.7 per cent; miscellaneous, 2.7 per cent; stone, clay and glass products, 2.1 per cent; food and kindred products, 1.9 per cent; paper and printing, 1.9 per cent; tobacco manufactures, 1.7.

$32,000 Shortage Is Discovered in U. S. Sub-Treasury

A $32,000 shortage has been discovered in the funds of the Baltimore sub-treasury. The shortage was found by United States treasury officials at the sub-treasury in checking up $20,000,000 turned over to them after a previous check by employes of the institution had shown the amount in the vaults to be correct.

The transfer was made Jan. 12 to 14. The shortage was discovered on the afternoon of the 13th and reported to Robert G. Hilton, assistant treasurer in charge of the subtreasury, on the morning of the 14th, as well as to the secretary of the treasury.

The shortage was reported to the office of the treasurer in Washington, and then to the secretary of the treasury. Assistant Secretary Gilbert, in charge of fiscal affairs, called in the secret service. The findings in the case eventually will be sent to the office of the solicitor of the treasury department for his judgment as to such legal action as may be necessary.

The bond which Mr. Hilton gave the treasury department upon his appointment is being held in Washington. However, because of the fact that the money disappeared while agents of the department in Washington were in charge of the office, Mr. Hilton will ask to be relieved from responsibility for the loss under his bond.

MOTHER!

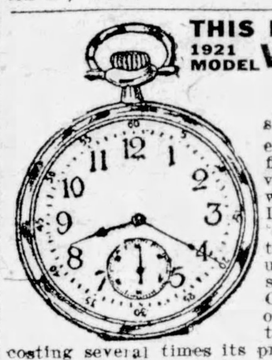
"California Syrup of Figs" Child's Best Laxative

Accept "California" Syrup of Figs only—look for the name California on the package, then you are sure your child is having the best and most harmless physic for the little stomach, liver and bowels. Children love its fruity taste. Full directions on each bottle. You must say "California."

We Want to Pay YOU $1.50 in Cash

Just send your name. We will mail 12 pkgs. Laundry Tablets that Wash Without Work. Your friends gladly pay 25c a pkg. You keep $1.50, send us $1.50. We trust you. KLOZE-SAVERS COMPANY, Inc., Dept. EE-1, Boston 30, Mass.

THIS FINE 1921 MODEL Watch $3.85



American-made, 14 size, 7 Jewel quality, extra thin, gold-filled or solid silverine cased sample watch, guaranteed IN WRITING for ten years and sold to you at the ridiculously low wholesale price $3.85 C. O. D. If you or any of your friends can tell it from a watch costing several times its price, or if after ten days' wear you are not more than pleased with it—SEND IT BACK. In ordering be sure and ask for watch No. 301. Remember also our supply is limited. Order quick—today. POPULAR CO., Box 328, Evansville, Ind.

Rheumatism Left Him As If By Magic!

Had Suffered Over 50 Years!

Now 83 Years, Yet a Big Surprise To Friends

Regains Strength Goes Out Fishing Back to Business Laughs at "URIC ACID"

How the "Inner Mysteries" Reveals Startling Facts Overlooked By Doctors and Scientists For Centuries

"I am eighty-three years old and I doctored for rheumatism ever since I came out of the army over fifty years ago;" writes J. B. Ashelman. "Like many others, I spent money freely for so-called 'cures,' and I have read about 'Uric Acid' until I could almost taste it. I could not sleep nights or walk without pain; my hands were so sore and stiff I could not hold a pen. But now, as if by magic, I am again in active business and can walk with ease or write all day with comfort. Friends are surprised at the change."

HOW IT HAPPENED.

Mr. Ashelman is only one of thousands who suffered for years, owing to the general belief in the old, false theory that "Uric Acid" causes rheumatism. This erroneous belief induced him and legions of unfortunate men and women to take wrong treatments. You might just as well attempt to put out a fire with oil as to try and get rid of your rheumatism, neuritis and like complaints, by taking treatments supposed to drive Uric Acid out of your blood and body. Many physicians and scientists now know that Uric Acid never did, never can and never will cause rheumatism; that it is a natural and necessary constituent of the blood; that it is found in every newborn babe; and that without it we could not live!

These statements may seem strange to some folks, who have all along been led to believe in the old "Uric Acid" humbug. It took Mr. Ashelman fifty years to find out this truth. He learned how to get rid of the true cause of his rheumatism, other disorders, and recover his strength from "The Inner Mysteries," a remarkable book now being distributed free by an authority who devoted over twenty years to the scientific study of this particular trouble.

NOTE: If any reader of The Blade wishes the book that reveals these facts regarding the true cause and cure of rheumatism, facts that were overlooked by doctors and scientists for centuries past, simply send a post card or letter to H. P. Clearwater, 51-L street, Hallowell, Maine, and it will be sent by return mail without any charge whatever. Cut out this notice lest you forget! If not a sufferer yourself hand this good news to some afflicted friend.

MEAT CUTTERS FAVOR STRIKE

Vote Taken Shows Walkout Order Optional With Envoys to Mediation.

Representatives of packing house workers who will attend the conference at Washington to discuss methods of adjusting the stock yards wage controversy, will be empowered by their constituents to call an immediate strike if their terms are not granted. Reports received from the strike vote in packing plants throughout the country indicate that the sentiment of the workers is overwhelmingly in favor of a strike.

In Chicago, returns indicate, 85 per cent of the packing house employes voted in favor of a strike. Returns from Denver, Fort Worth, Omaha and other packing centers show that the strike proposal carried strongly in these cities also.

Dennis Lane, secretary of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workers of North America, and Attorney Redmond S. Brennan have been selected as the labor delegates to the Washington conference. At the meeting of representatives of all of the unions connected with the packing industry, Lane and Brennan were granted authority to call a strike if their demands are refused.

The unions will demand that the packers restore the recently abrogated Alschuler agreement, under which wage controversies were adjusted during the war period. The unions contend that, despite the action of the packers in withdrawing from this agreement, it is still legally in effect and constitutes a contract between the packers, the workers and the government. The strike will be the alternative if the unions fail in their efforts to have this agreement restored.

Ann Walter, Pennsylvania's oldest woman, celebrated her 106th birthday with corned beef and cabbage, mince pie and two cups of coffee. If the dietetists are not all wrong Ann Walker will kill herself yet.

DRINK MORE WATER IF KIDNEYS BOTHER

Eat Less Meat and Take Salts for Backache or Bladder Trouble.

Uric acid in meat excites the kidneys, they become overworked; get sluggish, ache, and feel like lumps of lead. The urine becomes cloudy; the bladder is irritated, and you may be obliged to seek relief two or three times during the night. When the kidneys clog you must help them flush off the body's urinous waste or you'll be a real sick person shortly. At first you feel a dull misery in the kidney region, you suffer from backache, sick headache, dizziness, stomach gets sour, tongue coated and you feel rheumatic twinges when the weather is bad.

Eat less meat, drink lots of water; also get from any pharmacist four ounces of Jad Salts; take a tablespoonful in a glass of water before breakfast for a few days and your kidneys will then act fine. This famous salts is made from the acid of grapes and lemon juice, combined with lithia, and has been used for generations to clean clogged kidneys and stimulate them to normal activity, also to neutralize the acids in urine, so it no longer is a source of irritation, thus ending bladder weakness.

Jad Salts is inexpensive, cannot injure; makes a delightful effervescent lithia-water drink which everyone should take now and then to keep the kidneys clean and active. Druggists here say they sell lots of Jad Salts to folks who believe in overcoming kidney trouble while it is only trouble.—Adv.

SQUEEZED TO DEATH

When the body begins to stiffen and movement becomes painful it is usually an indication that the kidneys are out of order. Keep these organs healthy by taking

GOLD MEDAL HAARLEM OIL CAPSULES

The world's standard remedy for kidney, liver, bladder and uric acid troubles. Famous since 1696. Take regularly and keep in good health. In three sizes, all druggists. Guaranteed as represented. Look for the name Gold Medal on every box and accept no imitation

THE NEW CONGRESS—(FIND THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY).

Why George Harvey Goes to England

BY DENTON C. CROWL.

In order to get a clear understanding of the European situation, one must review the history of two years ago. The great jaws of Foch's armies were crushing the Huns. In six weeks it was apparent an unconditional surrender of Germany would have been possible. Under the leadership of an American president an armistice was declared. Germany wanted delay. No foreign armies had invaded her soil. Her armies returned as conquerors. Garlands of flowers were placed 'round the necks of the Hun. German industries had not been touched. The surrounding countries of Europe had been laid waste. The industrial plants of Belgium had been robbed of their machinery. Tools and materials were stolen and sent to Germany. Even Belgium babies were robbed by taking the milk cows into Germany. French fruit farms were wantonly destroyed. German leaders knew full well that under such conditions of guilt unconditional surrender on her part would prove disastrous. Therefore they quickly clutched the Wilsonian armistice with the thankfulness of a drowning man grabbing a life preserver.

The German Plan.

Anyone who remembers and observes with even ordinary human ability German past action, will note the same old German trick being played again today before our eyes. It is to gain time and sow dissension among the allies and at the same time to provoke propaganda among other neutrals. At home German officials gained the sympathy of the masses by telling them they had been duped into signing the Versailles treaty by the "false-steer" of an American president.

In the meantime German emissaries urged on the revolution in Ireland, put over the idea of an American committee endeavoring to interfere with the age-old dispute between Ireland and England. Their game was and is to separate Britain from America. In the meantime Germany gave up her navy as a sop to the British, but steadily refused and still refuses to live up to the armament terms of her treaty which France demanded. Lloyd George has no leg to stand on before his people and plead the French cause because British terms have been met to a large degree. Besides English unemployed needed the markets of Germany. The idea is to separate Britain from France. Fortunately German stupidity upset her plans temporarily in the recent conference and Lloyd George was able to support France. But this procedure will have at most only a short lease.

Enter George Harvey.

Unless some powerful outside influence is brought to Downing street someone who is capable of explaining the error of past assumptions on the part of the British regarding the American people, it is reasonably certain that Lloyd George will be forced to assume "business as usual relations" with Germany by the economic interests of Great Britain. AND THIS WOULD MEAN ANOTHER WORLD WAR LATER. Therefore, the thousands of readers of America's greatest editor and publicist received a distinct shock in the dispatches the other day to learn they were to lose the service of this valuable man as an American leader and editor. But as German designs become more apparent, as the European situation clarifies itself to the average thinker, one may now congratulate President Harding in the greatest of all his appointments so far. He has placed Col. Harvey in England where Great Britain and the entire world will soon learn that the American people are as determined as the French that Germany shall and must pay.

The writer will venture this daring assertion, as representing the mass opinion of the American people, that in case Germany will not (not cannot) pay, then the stand be divided, giving one-third to Poland, one-third to Belgium and one-third to France. This would be a short cut to the solution of the problem.

The American nation will not desert its allies.

Zamora, Mexican Rebel Chief, Dies From His Wounds

Pedro Zamora, for the past ten years one of the most formidable bandits operating along the western coast of Mexico, is dead as a result of wounds received in a recent battle with federal troops near the town of Zemzontla, state of Jalisco. His body was identified by a number of his followers.

The dead bandit was associated with various revolutionary factions for years. He was a first lieutenant of Villa, after which he joined Zapata, but finally he operated independently in the states of Jalisco, Michoacan and Colima. An extensive area in these states was under his control for a long time. At the beginning of the administration of Provisional President De La Huerta, the bandit surrendered, but within a few months headed another uprising. Last August he raided the towns of Autlan and Quatlan, from which he carried off a number of captives. Among those taken prisoners by Zamora were seven Americans and several British subjects. It was said that 16 girls carried off from Quatlan had committed suicide following their capture by the bandit. Most of his prisoners were released voluntarily, and when government troops pressed the pursuit of the bandit he released the rest after being promised immunity from arrest.

He announced he intended to follow peaceful pursuits, but, unlike his former chieftain, Villa, he was not contented with a peaceful life and recently it was reported that he was again heading a rebellion, and federal troops were sent against him. The bandit forces were encountered at Zemzontla, and Zamora received fatal wounds. He managed to escape from the field, but he died later. News dispatches say the body was taken to Barranca, state of Aguas Calientes, for burial.

SEC. WEEKS WILL REVISE ARMY PROMOTION LIST

A revised list of those recommended for promotion to the rank of general officers will be submitted to President Harding by Secretary Weeks to be presented at the coming special session of congress. It would show several changes, Mr. Weeks said, from the list of nominations sent in by President Wilson, but which failed of confirmation.

The secretary would not indicate what changes had been made.

HOUSE PASSES SHAKEUP BILL

Davis' Reorganization Plan Meets With Little Opposition in Ohio Legislature.

The reorganization plan of Governor Davis revamping Ohio state's myriad departments into eight branches of government, each presided over by a director appointed by the governor with approval of the senate, is now half a law. It provides $91,000,000 for state government purposes during the next two years.

The house, without debate, passed the bill, 107 to 11, no Republicans voting against it. The emergency clause attached to the bill was adopted, 100 to 18, seven Republicans joining with 11 Democrats against making the code an emergency measure. Brummit, whose name was called four times, refused to vote.

The bill now goes to the senate, where hearings may be held on the various departments embraced in the reorganization plan before the measure is up for passage. It is anticipated that the code will be put through in the upper house without much more opposition than was encountered in the lower house.

Dem. Leader Active.

Representative H. S. Atkinson, Democratic floor leader, filed a protest against the emergency clause on the bill immediately following its passage. Speaker Beetham, in directing that it be read and spread on the journal, said that he took this action in spite of action of a Democraic speaker four years ago, when a protest of the Republican minority was not printed in the journal as requested.

In the Atkinson protest, which was also signed by other members of the minority, a threat to test the constitutionality of the emergency clause in the courts was made.

Representative Robert C. Dunn, chairman of the legislative reorganization committee, called up the bill immediately upon the convening of the house. When a vote was called on the emergency clause, Brenner objected. He declared that he would be violating his oath of office by voting for the emergency—that he did not want to deprive the people of a chance to vote on it.

To prevent any attempt of the opposition to reconsider the vote, Representative Weaver of Knox moved that the action by which the bill was pased be reconsidered. This motion was voted down.

Public health organizations and other professional groups affected by the bill will continue their opposition to the measure in the senate, it is said.

Druggists Are Peeved.

Representatives of the Pharmaceutical association and others affected, charged that the house committee and Governor Davis had not kept their promise to leave the medical board, the board of pharmacy, nurses' examining committee, embalming examiners and similar boards unchanged. The plan of placing them under a department of examinations was dropped, but instead they are placed in a bureau under the department of education.

The protest entered against passage of the bill by the Democrats declares:

"Acting under orders from the executive head of the state, this house has manifested contempt for the constitution which can only breed disrespect for law and government, with the result that the people will lose confidence in government."

Costa Ricans Are Much Peeved Over Ending Hostilities

Opponents of the Acosta government of Costa Rica are sharply criticising the administration for terminating hostilities between his country and Panama following intervention by the United States. Exciting scenes are occuring in congress, many members of which are denouncing the government as "favoring Panama and endangering the independence of Costa Rica." The government is making conciliatory replies to these criticisms and endeavoring to calm the storm.

Costa Rican interests in Panama have been placed in the hands of the Spanish minister. The Panaman government has repatriated many Costa Ricans who were taken prisoners during the recent fighting and has sent them to Puerto Limon. United States warships are reported to be watching the Costa Rican and Panaman coasts.

It is estimated that 150,000 automobile tires are turned out every day in the United States.

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BRITISH NAVAL ESTIMATES ON ONE POWER SYST...

The British naval estimates ... 1921-22 amount to £91,186,... gross and £82,479,000 net, ... was announced by Lord Lee ... Fareham, first lord of the Brit... admiralty. In a statement ... plaining the estimates, Lord ... said they were based on the gov... ment's policy of maintaining a "... power standard."

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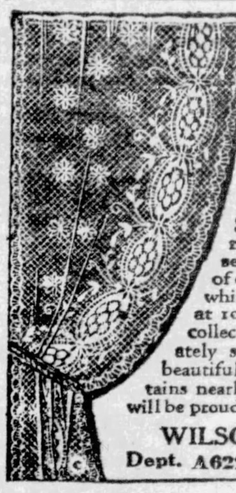

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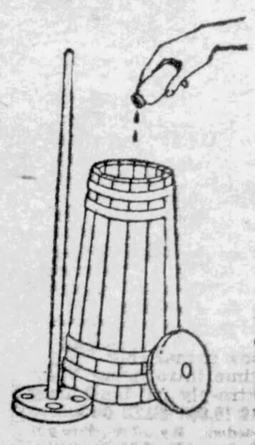

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MEXICANS FIRE ON AMERICANS

U. S. Immigration Officials Summon Troops to Fight Mexican Whisky Smugglers.

United States soldiers and immigration officers were ordered to control the Mexican border near El Paso, where, on March 17, they had exchanged shots with a party believed to be Mexican smugglers, in which three Americans were wounded.

The Mexicans opened fire on three American immigration officers who discovered the Mexicans fording the Rio Grande which is about 50 yards wide at that point. The return fire of the immigration officers apparently wounded one of three Mexicans wading the river, and was immediately answered by riflemen concealed in bushes on the Mexican side.

Five more inspectors and 100 soldiers of the 48th infantry from El Paso responded to a call for assistance and for more than an hour the firing continued briskly, the Americans firing at the flashes of the Mexican guns. An occasional scream of pain from the Mexican side indicated that the American fire was not without results.

At 1 a. m. the Mexican fire died down and a dim light was visible moving about on the Mexican side.

C. A. Perkins, inspector in charge of the immigration men, said he believed the Mexicans were attempting to smuggle over liquor or drugs.

The three Americans wounded were:

Private M. J. Koller, Company D, 8th infantry, shot in left arm and scalp wound; Private —— Petroski, shot through hip, believed serious; Joseph T. Homas, immigration inspector, scalp wound.

Wild cucumber plants in the middle west are regarded as a menace to domesticated plants, through their disease-carrying properties.

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A noted hair-dresser contributed her wonderful success to a secret remedy. You can now have the recipe and make the same remedy. No patented ingredients. Simple, inexpensive to make yet a better scalp remedy was never compounded. $1.00 brings recipe with complete directions. Write today and enjoy the wonderful, speedy results that many others have enjoyed. L. B., 90 Central Station, Toledo, Ohio.

GOOD NEWS

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You can now clothe your boys for half and less than half the prices you formerly paid. We are large manufacturers of boys' clothing and formerly sold only to stores at wholesale. We have now decided to sell direct to the public by mail. Through our enormous facilities we are able to sell to you at the same prices retailers paid us — we save you the storekeepers' expenses and profits.

Send your name and address and we will ship you promptly by Parcel Post, C. O. D., the boy's suit, as illustrated. It is made of a wonderfully long wearing, fancy mixed wool cashmere in dark striped patterns of blue, gray and brown. Sizes 7 to 17. Suit is made to stand the hard knocks given it by an active boy in work or play. Strongly sewed throughout, buttons will not come off. If you do not find it a wonderful value for the money, return it, and the price will be refunded. When writing state size and color wanted.

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IF THEY WOULD GET TOGETHER AND DRIVE THE SNAKES OUT OF IRELAND.

AVIGNON, PALACE OF THE POPES, INSPIRING MONUMENT OF PAST

As every man has his hour and every dog his day, so has Avignon, France, had her century.

In the middle ages, when law and order, progress and liberty had well nigh disappeared from the earth, the power of the church increased as governments proved their weakness or rapacity, until the pope was the one universally recognized authority in Christendom.

At this juncture, in 1305, the vatican was removed from Rome to Avigon. The stupendous palace of the popes soon arose on the rocky hill near the Rhone and Avignon became the mecca of kings, princes, diplomats, courtiers, writers and artists from the four corners of the earth, the religious and political center of the world.

Nine popes held sway in Avignon from 1305, when Bertrand de Gott, archbishop of Bordeaux, was elected as Clement V, until the death of Benedict XIII in 1424. The massive palace which now dominates the modern city of Avignon was not started during the lifetime of Clement V. His successor, John XXII, began the construction, and later popes carried on and elaborated the work.

Master Craftsmen.

Several architects, all Frenchmen, had charge of the construction and all were master craftsmen. The palace not only was the most magnificent residence of its time, it was, perforce, an impregnable fortress. The treasures of the vatican were a constant invitation for an attack by the feudal barons of Les Baux and elsewhere. The towering walls of the papal stronghold were too formidable for direct attack, but the town was constantly besieged, convoys bound for the city were sacked, and outlying districts pillaged. Time after time the knightly brigands were bought off by payments from the papal treasury.

Avignon had plenty of other troubles. It was ravaged by plague in 1348 and again in 1374. Suffering from floods and famine, pestilence and pillage, the native of Avignon must have had a gloomy time of it, while revelry was the order of the day—and night—at the big white palace on the hill.

Despite the condition of the peasantry, the insecurity of life and property, and the quarrels among churchmen and diplomats, the nobles at Avignon led a life of reckless indulgence, judged even by the liberal 14th century code of morals. Those were truly the dark ages, when Avignon as she was could have been a bright spot.

In 1376 Pope Gregory XI listened to the urgings of the Italian cardinals and left Avignon for Rome. He died there in 1378 and the jealousy between French and Italian cardinals caused the great schism in the church. Each faction elected its pope, the French dignitary ruling from Avignon and the Italian from Rome. The two branches of the church were finaly united in 1424 on the death of Pierre de Luna, one of the most interesting and most obstinate characters of history, who as Pope Benedict XIII was the last wearer of the purple at Avignon.

Interior in Ruins.

Although the exterior of the palace of the popes is as imposing today as ever, the interior is a tragic ruin. Modern soldiers are far more effective than the medieval variety. The great palace in the days of Benedict XIII withstood a ten-year siege without being damaged in the least, but a regiment of modern French infantry, quartered in France's most historical structure during the present generation, has wrecked the interior beyond redemption. Imposing stairways, galleries and archways have been ruthlessly ripped out, partitions have gone up at random in the huge rooms, stovepipe holes have been pounded through the walls, and the famous frescoes, traced by the greatest artists of Italy, have disappeared under heavy coats of whitewash.

An effort is now being made to restore these buildings. The main architectural features are being replaced in a masterly manner, but the paintings, panelings and frescoes are lost beyond recall.

A walk through the almost endless corridor, across cathedral-like reception halls and the splendid stairways, gives an idea of the magnitude of this walled palace in its halcyon days.

The pile is deserted, save for a few stone masons and no one is allowed to enter without a guide. It would be an easy matter to become hopelessly lost on the upper floors, where one could step from an open door or a dismantled balcony and fall hundreds of feet to the rocks of the old Court of Honor below.

Erwin Bergdoll to Get New Hearing in Kansas City Court

The case against Erwin Bergdoll, brother of Grover Cleveland Bergdoll, under sentence of five years' imprisonment for evading the draft, is to be reopened at the request of the government, and a new hearing will be held in the district court at Kansas City.

The government desires to present additional evidence to strengthen its side of the case which is pending in the district court at Kansas City, as officials anticipate the decision in this case will be used as the basis of future actions against draft evaders when the official list is made public by the war department in the near future.

Erwin's case hinges upon the question of what constitutes legal induction into service. The war department has maintained that proof of the mailing of the formal notice is sufficient. Bergdoll contended that he never received such notice.

Some time after his brother escaped, Erwin surrendered at Governor's Island, where he was tried by court martial, convicted and sentenced to serve five years in Leavenworth military prison. He had scarcely begun his sentence when he applied to Judge Pollock of the United States district court for a writ of habeas corpus. There had been no ruling by the court, and the validity of Bergdoll's contention that the draft notice did not reach him has therefore not yet been determined.

The "leaf-cutter" bee is a very skillful artificer. So exact are the circles she cuts that a compass will fail to detect a fault.

NEW EPIDEMICS VISIT GOTHAM

Sleeping Sickness and the Hiccoughs Appear There in Strange Forms.

Besides typhus, New York has been visited by two new and altogether amazing epidemics this year. One of them is sleeping sickness; and the other is that common and heretofore insignificant malady, known as hiccoughs. At least, so they are called, but neither is true to type.

For the sleeping sickness, which is now so prevalent in New York, is not the same as the famous sleeping sickness of Africa, the cause of which is well understood. Nor is the present epidemic of hiccoughs in any way related to those gentle attacks, occasionally experienced by every one, more especially since the pocket flask has become so popular.

The new hiccoughs are singularly malignant and persistent, and are not at all humorous. They attack their victim every few seconds during the day, and are not always to be suppressed by deep breaths, drinks of water, chunks of bread, and other well known devices. Sometimes a hiccough spasm lasts for over an hour, and the hiccough series extends for weeks at a stretch.

Both epidemics, affecting hundreds of persons, have completely baffled New York medical men, and all other medical men, for that matter. No one has been able to discover how or whence they came; what to do for them while here, or how to get rid of them. From the great medical research laboratories of the city, such as that of the Rockefeller Foundation, have come various theories as to their cause, but none of which has proved convincing.

The most interesting one recently advanced is that the two afflictions are in some mysterious and subtle way connected—that prolonged attacks of hiccoughs are merely one of the many irritating symptoms of sleeping sickness; yet this is by no means unanimously accepted.

But the new sleeping sickness, not more than two years old, must be something entirely new, because we have no tsetse flies in this part of the world, and the only crocodiles about New York are kept behind a glass window in the zoo. Still, E. Letharigina must have a cause, and the medical profession is striving gallantly to supply it. Some of its members firmly believe that it is merely an after-effect of influenza, but this does not help much, because the influenza germ remains to be identified. Besides this, many others among the profession are equally certain that influenza has nothing to do with the new affliction.

May Run Woman for Congress in 19th Ohio District

Mrs. Harriet Taylor Upton of Warren, Ohio, will be urged to become a candidate for the Republican nomination for congress in the 19th district to succeed John G. Cooper, present incumbent, in event Cooper is elevated to the interstate commerce commission, Representative James W. Holloway of that city declares.

Holloway says Mrs. Upton's entrance would give his county a good chance to land the plum away from Mahoning and Ashtabula counties, which also have candidates.

Although Mrs. Upton is being mentioned for a seat in President Harding's cabinet, to preside over a new division to be created, Holloway feels that she would rather sit in a lawmaking body.

Among other candidates said to be ready to enter the field in case a special election is called are Senator H. P. McCoy, Youngstown, and Representative W. E. Wenner, Ashtabula Harbor.

"We feel that in a big field Mrs. Upton would win handily," said Holloway. "Her many years of activities in behalf of suffrage would insure her an almost solid woman vote, which, together with the other votes she would pick up, would insure victory."

Mrs. Upton was secretary to her father, who succeeded the martyred President, James A. Garfield, in congress. George Braden, who also was secretary to a congressman, and Warren Thomas are other possible Trumbull county candidates for the nomination.

It is felt that Governor Davis would call a special election in case of a vacancy. The nineteenth district is strongly Republican, and it is felt President Harding would desire Ohio fully represented in the house.

Seamen have observed the glow of Rio de Janeiro, a city famed for its brilliant illumination, a hundred miles out at sea.

ECZEMA

Also called Tetter, Salt Rheum, Pruritus, Milk Crust, Weeping Skin, Etc.

Eczema Can Be Cured to Stay, and when I say cured, I mean just what I say—C-U-R-E-D, and not merely patched up for awhile, to return worse than before. Remember, I make this broad statement after putting ten years of my time on this one disease and handling in the meantime a quarter of a million cases of this dreadful disease. Now, I do not care what all you have used, nor how many doctors have told you that you could not be cured—all I ask is just a chance to show you that I know what I am talking about. If you will write me TODAY, I will send you a FREE TRIAL of my mild soothing, guaranteed cure that will convince you more in a day than I or anyone else could in a month's time. If you are disgusted and discouraged, I dare you to give me a chance to prove my claims. By writing to me today you will enjoy more real comfort than you had ever thought this world holds for you. Just try it and you will see. I am telling you the truth.

DR. J. E. CANNADAY,
1200 Court Blk., Sedalia, Mo.

References—Third National Bank, Sedalia, Mo. Could you do a better act than send this notice to some poor sufferer of Eczema?

"Cascarets" for Constipation

Just think! A pleasant, harmless Cascaret works while you sleep and has your liver active, head clear, stomach sweet and bowels moving as regular as a clock by morning. No griping or inconvenience. 10, 25 or 50 cent boxes. Children love this candy cathartic too.

DROPSY Treated One Week FREE. Short breathing relieved in a few hours, swelling reduced in a few days, regulates the liver, kidneys, stomach and heart, purifies the blood, strengthens the entire system. Write for Free Trial Treatment. COLLUM DROPSY REMEDY CO., Dept. 57, Atlanta, Ga.

RADIUM

The Metal of Mystery

If you are suffering from an ailment that does not yield to medical treatment write us for our literature telling of the almost miraculous results many people have obtained from the use of our Radio Active Appliances, which are filled with our highest grade Radium Bearing Ore and highly Radio Active. Write now! TODAY!

RADIUM MINES CO. OF UTAH, Greenriver, Utah.

Fowl-a-Tone Kills White Diarrhea—allows little chicks to grow into dollars. Your druggist has it or send his name and $1.00 for two boxes. It's guaranteed. FOWL-A-TONE COMPANY, Paulding, O.

ASTHMA

TREATMENT sent any sufferer by mail at once. If it cures send $1.00. If not, don't. Write today. W. K. STERLINE, 631 Ohio Ave., SIDNEY, OHIO.

CATARRH Asthma, Throat, Weak Chest Sufferers, send today for words of value FREE. Will repay you a hundred times. Nothing else like it. *Write* Aeriform Chemical Laboratory, Winton Pl. 32 Cincinnati, O.

Won't You Try This Free for That Nasal and Throat Catarrh?

Well, here is your opportunity. We are going to give away, during the next ten days, several thousand packages of Gauss' Combined Treatment to those who need it, and if you want relief, sign the coupon at the foot of this notice, and the free package will be forwarded to you at once by parcel post.

We want to prove to you that Gauss' Combined Treatment will relieve you. The method is designed to strike at the seat of the trouble and give relief by removing the obstructions of congested mucous. This is the correct way to treat an inflamed nasal membrane, and if you are run down, weak, and your system lacks strength which is often the case with those who suffer with nasal and throat catarrh, send at once for the free package. Fill out the coupon below and package will be sent to you by return mail.

FREE

This coupon is good for a package of GAUSS' COMBINED TREATMENT, sent free by mail. Simply fill in your name and address on dotted lines below, and mail to C. E. GAUSS CO., 815 Main St., Marshall, Mich.

Name .....
R. F. D.
or Street .....
City..... State.....

STEFANSSON SHATTERS FALLACIES ANENT LAND OF MIDNIGHT SUN

Missionaries, novels of the frozen north, movie scenarios, school geographies and explorers were satirized in Toledo by Vilhjalmur Stefansson, noted Arctic explorer, because of their perpetuation of "a million fallacies" regarding the Polar regions.

"In that terrible land above the Arctic circle which is, according to the 1920 edition of the American Book Co.'s geography, a land always covered by ice and snow, the thermometer seldom rises above 100 degrees in the shade during the summer," Stefansson declared.

The explorer spent two hours of solid ridicule of popular fallacies and theories regarding the land of the Eskimo. His audience which had expected to hear a statistical lecture and gain some additional facts about polar exploration discovered at the close of the lecture that what it already knew wasn't true.

"While your novels, movie scenarios and even explorers make heroes out of explorers for the terrible dangers they encounter in the lands where the lowest recorded temperature in 40 years has been 54 degrees below zero, I think back to the time I went to school in the Dakotas.

"Government records show that at Havre, Montana's lowest temperature has been 68 degrees below zero and that 40 below in the Dakotas is not considered out of the ordinary. Thousands of six-year-old children have marched to school in that temperature, including myself, and I can tell you safely that none ever considered us heroes.

"It has never been as warm in Tampa, Fla., as it has been in the Arctic circle. Official records will show that the Arctic circle has had temperature of more than 100 degrees in the shade, while in Tampa 95 is a record.

"Missionaries have kept up the fallacy about the Polar regions because it brings them contributions, explorers because the people make heroes out of them, scenario and novel writers because they never have been there, and the geographies because—well just because geographies aren't quite accurate.

"Geographies which teach 67 per cent of the public school children in America, say that the land is covered always with ice and snow and there is little if any vegetation or animal life. Yet the most northern island in the Arctic Ocean known to man has 256 species of wild flowers which you will agree is truly remarkable in a country always covered by ice and snow with very little vegetation.

"This island has better climatic conditions than the city of Winnipeg which has 300,000 inhabitants. Some day when Americans and Canadians are shed of their fallacies the Arctic ocean will be as settled as Winnipeg.

"For thousands of years people have believed that Arctic explorers when their hands or face are frozen apply snow and ice as a remedy. You wouldn't stick your hand in a furnace to cure a burn, neither do we apply snow and ice to frozen parts of the body. We use our common sense and what your common sense should tell you should be used. We attempt to thaw out the frozen parts by applying the hottest thing we possess.

"And then there is the warning of our mothers that if we eat snow we will get stomach cramps and perish. Well, I believed it too until one day I happened to think that the only difference between snow and ice cream is the flavor.

"And the 'terrible Arctic thirst,' well it doesn't exist either. We've eaten snow for our thirst and we haven't perished and never had stomach cramps.

"Another common belief is that explorers must carry food for the entire round trip, because animal life gets scarce as one goes north. Of course when that is taught in our geographies and novels we can't be blamed except when the same geographies tell us that the greatest fisheries in the world are in the northeastern coasts of Canada and around Norway and Sweden, the most northerly nations on earth. There is less animal life at the equator than there is in the Arctic ocean," he added.

Stefansson predicts that the Arctic lands will be as populated some day as Canada when the terror fallacies are downed.

Skin Without Blemish Is Every Woman's Wish

Disfiguring Pimples Cause Much Embarrassment.

How often do we see women who would really be good looking but for some unsightly facial blemish that spoils her complexion and her chance of being considered attractive.

A clear ruddy complexion is an unmistakable sign of a vigorous, healthy vitality, while pimples on the face indicate a depleted, run-down condition of the system.

A healthy, attractive skin is practically within reach of every woman, but it cannot be obtained from the use of cosmetics or socalled skin foods. First of all, it must be realized that the condition of the skin depends upon the condition of the blood, and no one can have a clear, ruddy, healthy skin unless the blood is robust and healthy and free from all impurities.

Pimples and blotches on the face or other parts of the body are not only a source of embarrassment, but they are also a warning from nature that should be promptly heeded. They indicate that the system needs a house-cleaning — that foreign substance has crept into the blood to interfere with its perfect performance, and that a serious clogging up of the tissues and skin pores will result unless the proper treatment is resorted to. And this naturally leads to the query: "What is the proper method of treating diseases of the skin?"

A very common mistake is to rely upon local remedies, such as lotions, salves, ointments and other applications to the surface of the skin.

But eczema, tetter, pimples, skin eruptions and similar disorders that cause so much discomfort, are not merely a surface condition; their cause lies deeper, and you will never be entirely rid of the terrifying itching until you realize that their cause must be reached and eliminated.

So the answer is: "Seek the cause and remove it." The real source of all skin disorders being in the blood, the proper treatment must be through the blood. Rout out of the circulation the disease germs, and your skin will clear up and become normal and healthy.

The one remedy that is being used with uniform satisfaction is S. S. S. the fine old purely vegetable blood medicine that has been on the market for more than half a century. This splendid remedy builds up the blood supply by removing from it any impurities, and gives excellent results in all cases of skin disorders.

Throw aside your lotions and ointments and treat the source of your trouble, if you wish to be free from skin disorders and blemishes.

Get a bottle of S. S. S. from your druggist today, and you will be pleased with what this remedy will accomplish. Then, if you want special expert advice you can obtain same without cost by writing fully to Chief Medical Adviser, 282 Swift Laboratory, Atlanta, Ga.

Lecturer Called

Gunsaulus, Noted Educator, Victim of Heart Disease

Dr. Frank W. Gunsaulus, president and one of the founders of the Armour Institute of Technology and one of the most noted ministers of the present day, died in Chicago on March 17. The end came two hours after he had been stricken with heart disease.

Dr. Gunsaulus was pastor of Central church for 20 years and was internationally known as a minister and lecturer. He resigned his pastorate several years ago to give all of his time to the Armour Institute.

Dr. Gunsaulus was born Jan. 1, 1856, at Chesterville, O., and attended Ohio Wesleyan university at Delaware, O. He entered the ministry at Columbus at the age of 19, and later held pastorates at Baltimore and Chicago. Then followed a series of professorships at Yale, University of Chicago, Ohio Wesleyan, and Miami university, Oxford O.

Among his famous lectures are those on Oliver Cromwell, George Washington, and American Statesmanship. His writings included songs, essays, a life of Gladstone, and numerous religious works.

Four daughters and one son and the widow survive. All are of Chicago, except Mrs. Robert K. Merriman of Allentown, Pa.

Armenian Murders Turk Leader Who Ordered Massacre

Talaat Pasha, former Turkish minister, who was assassinated last week, died as the result of a murder pact entered into more than a year ago, says a confession made to the police of Berlin by Salamon Teilierian, the young Armenian who fired the fatal shot.

"I swore a solemn oath that I would kill Talaat Pasha whom I held to be responsible for most of the suffering of my fellow people," said the assassin. "I made solemn oath to call down the bloody vengeance of heaven upon his head. I was prepared to follow him around the world. He could not escape me no matter what city he went to nor what disguise he used to cover his identity. I knew that his heart's blood belonged to me, and I only waited for the sacrifice.

"Talaat Pasha signed a decree which resulted in a massacre of Armenians, and my mother and father were killed by Turkish soldiers. Is it any wonder that I held this grudge? Talaat Pasha disappeared from Constantinople, but I had my own sources of information, and I learned that he was in Berlin. I got passport—no matter how—and I went there. I frequented the Turkish quarter and it did not take me long to find out that the old enemy of my family was living here under an assumed name.

"He lived very quietly and went out but seldom. He feared assassins. It was in January that I arrived. I took my time and planned the murder carefully. I was not going to allow all my plans to be spoiled by one false step. Everything came out just as I ordered it."

Teilirian said he was born at Salman, Persia, on April 2, 1897.

The prisoner was badly beaten by a crowd after shooting and sustained severe injuries in the head, but will recover.

The northern and northeastern districts of France include the principal centers of the [illegible] industry in that country.

GARDNER GETS POSITION BACK

Waterway Chairman, Ousted by Former President Will Be Reappointed by W. G.

President Harding has accepted the resignation of former Secretary of Labor William B. Wilson as a member of the international joint commission and will immediately reappoint Obadiah Gardner of Maine to the place from which he was removed by former President Wilson. Mr. Wilson was appointed to the commission a few days before March 4 after Gardner had been ousted and Joseph P. Tumulty, the former president's secretary, had declined to accept the post.

The summary removal of Chairman Gardner by the outgoing administration aroused a great storm of protest. Although Gardner is a Democrat a number of middle western Republican senators energetically protested against his removal, and as soon as President Harding took office they launched a nonpartisan drive to have Gardner restored to his old position.

The international joint commission under the chairmanship of the former senator from Maine has been engaged for nearly two years in conducting a study of the practicability of the St. Lawrence waterway project, and is ready to begin preparing its report. The removal of Gardner, it was claimed, would delay this report many months.

President Harding asked William B. Wilson for his resignation several days ago and it was received at the White House last week.

Allies Insist That Peace Treaty Isn't Nulled by Seizure

The reparations commission has drafted a note to Germany declaring that the allied military and economic penalties were legally justified under the treaty of Versailles because Germany had not paid the amount of money pledged under that covenant.

This allied note was designed as an answer to the German contention that the advance of the allied troops on the Rhine nullified the peace treaty.

It pointed out that Germany had paid less than one-half of the twenty billion gold marks due from her (under the terms of the treaty) by May 1.

The argument of the Germans that the amount had been fully paid was rejected.

(Dr. Walter Simons, the German foreign minister, in a speech at London, offered the allies fifty billion gold marks indemnity. He contends that Germany already had paid twenty billion gold marks, leaving thirty billion gold marks to be paid in the future.)

The present military and economic penalties imposed by the allies upon Germany are incapable of giving France the amount of reparations due her in the opinion of former President Poincare. In an article he says:

"The total of the Rhine customs will not exceed five hundred million gold marks annually. At the end of ten years we will find ourselves far from being reimbursed. It is difficult to guess the results of the export taxes. The only important feature of the sanctions is the coercive power they give. If we want to be paid we must take other steps."

Revised Auto Laws for State of Ohio Are Recommended

The sub-committee appointed by Chairman Huston T. Robins of the judiciary committee of the Ohio legislature to thresh out a substitute for the nine bills affecting automobiles referred by the house, has completed its work.

The bill re-enacts many present statutes, and adds sections which:

Provide for appointment of a state traffic superintendent under the commissioner, who shall carve the state into 15 districts, and have a deputy in charge in each district. These commissioners may appoint as many highway policemen as necessary, who arrest without warrant.

A vehicle traffic board, composed of the attorney general, highway commissioner and vehicle commissioner is created. It must adopt a code of rules for highways and city streets within 60 days after the measure becomes a law, and post rules in five places in each of the 15 districts.

Each owner of an automobile gets a driver's license free, but if any other member of the family wants to drive it, he or she must pay $1. No person under 16 can drive a car.

Speed limits of 15 miles an hour in congested portions of cities, 20 miles in the balance of city streets and 25 miles on country roads are established for passenger cars, and a lower speed for trucks.

ITCHING ECZEMA FOR 4 YEARS

On Limbs in Pimples. Burned and Could Not Rest. Cuticura Healed.

"I suffered for about four years with eczema on my limbs, from my knees down. At first they were very small pimples, and after a while the skin would begin to swell and get thick and crack open. My clothing rubbed the eruption, causing awful itching and burning, and I could not rest at all.

"I began to use Cuticura and got relief, and when I had used two cakes of Cuticura Soap and one box of Cuticura Ointment I was healed." (Signed) Nelson Smith, Cache, Ill.

Cuticura Soap, Ointment and Talcum promote and maintain skin purity, skin comfort and skin health often when all else fails.

Sample Each Free by Mail. Address: "Cuticura Laboratories, Dept. H, Malden 48, Mass." Sold everywhere. Soap 25c. Ointment 25 and 50c. Talcum 25c. Cuticura Soap shaves without mug.

Goff to Aid Daugherty

Guy D. Goff of Milwaukee was given a recess appointment by President Harding as assistant to the attorney general, the second highest place in the department of justice.

LADIES! SECRET TO DARKEN GRAY HAIR

Bring Back Its Color and Lustre With Grandma's Sage Tea Recipe.

Common garden sage brewed into a heavy tea, with sulphur and alcohol added, will turn gray, streaked and faded hair beautifully dark and luxuriant. Mixing the Sage Tea and Sulphur recipe at home, though, is troublesome. An easier way is to get the ready-to-use preparation improved by the addition of other ingredients a large bottle, at little cost, at drug stores, known as "Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Compound," thus avoiding a lot of muss.

While gray, faded hair is not sinful, we all desire to retain our youthful appearance and attractiveness. By darkening your hair with Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Compound, no one can tell, because it does it so naturally, so evenly. You just dampen a sponge or soft brush with it and draw this through your hair, taking one small strand at a time; by morning all gray hairs have disappeared. After another application or two your hair becomes beautifully dark, glossy, soft and luxuriant and you appear years younger. —Adv.

"Diamond Dye" Faded, Shabby Things—Fun!

Every package of "Diamond Dyes" contains easy directions for dyeing any garment or drapery. Beware! Poor dye streaks, spots, fades and ruins material by giving it a "dyed-look." Buy "Diamond Dyes" only. Tell druggist whether your material is wool or silk, or if it is cotton, linen, or a mixture. 16 rich colors. —Advertisement

Stop Guessing Try Pyramid

If You have Come to Such Misery as Itching or Protruding Piles Try Pyramid Pile Suppositories

Pyramid Pile Suppositories have been the household reliance for

more than two decades. You've no idea what blessed relief is until you use Pyramid. Get a 60c box today at the drug store anywhere in the U. S. or Canada, but do not take any substitute.

They are used in the privacy of your own home and you can have a free trial by sending your name and address to Pyramid Drug Co., 607 Pyramid Bldg., Marshall, Mich.

Kill Rats

New Way by Science

HELP the U. S. Public Health Service in its great crusade to kill all the rats in the country. They cost $180,000,000 a year, carry disease, spread plague. Rats rob average farmer of $100,00 a year. What do they cost you? How much grain do they eat? How many baby chicks do they kill?

New Discovery Not a Poison

REEFER'S RAT VIRUS is its name. Bacteriological concentrate discovered by noted French scientist. Prepared in Government Inspected Laboratory. Does away with all traps and poisons. Entirely different. Used world over on ships, wharves, warehouses where rats are thickest. Sure death for every rat—absolutely harmless to everything else. Children can eat it as safely as jelly.

Guaranteed to Kill Every Rat or Money Refunded

Use REEFER'S RAT VIRUS—every rat on your place will be gone in a short time—or your money back. What greater proof of its merit could you want? You don't have to suffer from rats any more. You can kill them SURE.

Rats Die Outside!

Always die outdoors seeking water. No rotting odor. No rats to kill. Only perfect rat killer invented. Approved by highest scientific authorities. Sure death—safe—simple to use.

FREE Trial

Prove that your rats can be killed without risk. Take advantage of this great offer. Fill out coupon. Use REEFER'S RAT VIRUS. If there's a single rat left, your trial costs you nothing. Isn't that fair? Don't wait. Rats are costing you money every day you delay. Spread disease, cause fires—don't hesitate—accept this square-deal offer.

Don't Delay

Don't tolerate rats any longer. Fill out coupon and mail. For just $1.00 we will send you enough Reefer's Rat Virus to clear a big barn or house of rats. Send for it! Try it! If there is a rat alive, you get your money back. Every rat killed means $10 saved. Every living rat costs you $10 a year. Get rid of every rat—here's your chance.

Mail This Coupon

E. J. Reefer, 3803 Main Street ..., New Jersey

Canadian Address: Fort Erie, Ontario

I accept your offer. Enclosed find $1.00 for one package of Reefer's Rat Virus. You agree to refund my money if I'm not 100% satisfied.

Name.....

Address.....

.....

BIRD LOVERS

Send for free bird book, "Canaries for Pleasure and Profit". Gives valuable information about breeding, training, rearing, feeding, care and full description of canaries. Written by an expert. Sent free together with samples of West's Quality Bird Foods on receipt of 10 cents stamps to cover postage.

MAGNESIA PRODUCTS COMPANY
Department 14, Milwaukee, Wis.
West's Quality Bird Foods

THE LATEST MARKETS

Wheat continued its decline last week and prices were eight cents lower than the quotations the previous week. Forecast for rains and favorable weather from the crop and the slow demand for the cash article were responsible for the bearish sentiment. In the produce market butter ruled firm, but eggs have dropped two cents, the strictly fresh variety now bringing 33 cents.

Grain

Wheat, cash, $1.65; March, $1.65; May, $1.63. Corn, cash, 67c. Oats, cash, 45½c. Barley, cash, 78c. Rye, No. 2, cash, $1.44. Cloverseed, cash, 1920, $12.50; March, $12.25; April, $9.85; Oct., $9.05. Alsike, cash, 1920, $15.00; March, $13.75. Timothy, cash, 1918, $2.80; 1919, $2.90; 1920, $2.95; March, $2.95; April, $2.95; May, $2.95; July, $3.20.

Chicago—Wheat, March, $1.52; May, $1.42. Corn, May, 66¾c; July, 69⅝c. Oats, May, 41⅛c; July, 42⅝c. Barley, May, 66c. Rye, May, $1.34; July, $1.13¾.

Produce

TOLEDO—Butter—Fancy Elgin creamery, 1-lb. prints, 52c; solid pack, 51c; nut margarene, 26@27c.

Cheese—Fancy brick, 28@29c; limburger, New York, 2-lb. bricks, 35c; Wisconsin, 1-lb., 35c; domestic, 32c; new Michigan, 30@31c; longhorn, 32@33c.

Eggs—Candled, 30c; selects, 33c.

Bacon—Fat, 20½c; lean, 30c; wide, 6 to 8 lbs., 27c; 9 to 10 lbs., 26c; 11 to 12 lbs., 23c; 13 to 15 lbs., 18c. Hams, 28c. Lard, 12½c. Sausage—Bologna, 16c; frankfurters, 19c; fresh pork, 15c; luncheon, 17c.

Live Poultry—Ducks, 33@35c; turkeys, 45@48c; geese, 20@22c; chickens, 34@35c; old roosters, 24@25c.

Hides—No. 1, 5c; No. 2, 4c; bull, 3c; green calf, No. 1, 9c; No. 2, 7½c; kip, 7c; No. 2 kip, 5½c; cured hides, No. 1, 6c; No. 2, 5c; horse hides, $2.00.

Tallow, rendered, No. 1, 4c; No. 2, 3c.

Cleveland—Butter—Extra, in tubs, 50½@51c; prints, 51½@52c; extra firsts, 49½@50c; firsts, 48½@49c; seconds, 37@39c; packing, 14@17c; fancy dairy, 30c. Eggs—Fresh gathered, northern, extras, 34c; extra firsts, 33c; Ohio firsts, new cases, 29@30c; old cases, 30@31c; western firsts, new cases, 29c. Oleomargarine, lb. prints, nut oleo, 22@24c; high grade animal oils, 25@26½c; lower grades, 20c. Cheese—York state, 29@32c; brick, 25@28c; limburger, fancy, 30@32c; Swiss, 35@60c. Poultry—Live, heavy fowls, 37c; roosters, 22@23c; spring chickens, 36@37c. Potatoes—Ohio and New York round white, $2.00@2.15 per 150-lb. sack; Michigan round white, $2.00; Colorado Brown Beauties, No. 1, $3.00; new Bermudas, $13.20; new Maryland Red Chili, $6.00@7.00 a crate. Sweet Potatoes—Delaware yellow, No. 1, $2.00 per bu.; Maryland yellow, $1.85 a bu.; Virginia, kiln-dried, $1.75@2.00 a hamper.

New York—Butter firm; receipts, 7,039; creamery, higher than extras, 45@45½c; creamery, extras (92 score), 44½c; firsts, (88 to 91 score), 41@44c; packing stock, current make, No. 2, 22c. Eggs weak; receipts, 32,214; fresh gathered, extra firsts, 31½@32c; firsts, 29@31c; state, Pennsylvania and nearby western hennery, whites, firsts to extras, 38@43c; state, Pennsylvania and nearby western hennery, browns, extras, 36@37c; do., gathered, browns and mixed colors, firsts to extras, 30@34c; storage packed, extra firsts, 32½@33c; firsts, 31½@32c. Cheese steady; receipts, 1,195; state whole milk, flats, held, specials, 28@29c; do., average run, 26@27½c; state whole milk, flats, fresh, specials, 25½@26c; do., average run, 25@25½c. Live poultry firm; broilers, 55@60c; fowls, 40c; turkeys, 35@40c; dressed firm; western chickens, boxes, 32@35c; fowls, 30@40c.

Chicago—Butter higher; creamery extras, 45c; standards, 41¾c. Eggs lower; receipts, 26,074 cases; firsts, 24@24½c; ordinary firsts, 21@22c; at mark, cases included, 23@23½c. Poultry, alive, unchanged. Potatoes, receipts, 80 cars; weak and unsettled; prices about 5c lower; Wisconsin, $1.25 cwt.; sacked, $1.20 cwt.

Live Stock

Cleveland—Hogs—Receipts, 1,500; lower; heavies, $10.00; yorkers, $11.25; pigs, $11.50. Lambs, $9.50@10.00; sheep, $6.50. Calves, $15.50; cattle, $10.25.

Pittsburgh—Hogs—Receipts, 1,500; higher; heavy, $10.00@10.70; heavy yorkers, light do. and pigs, $11.75@11.85. Sheep and lambs—Receipts, 400; steady; top sheep, $7.50; top lambs, $11.00. Calves—Receipts, 50; steady; top, $16.50.

East Buffalo—Cattle—Receipts, 125; about steady. Calves—Receipts 200; $1 higher, $5.00@18.50. Hogs—Receipts, 3,200; 25@50c higher; heavy, $10.00@11.00; mixed, $11.50@11.75; yorkers, $11.75@12.00; light do. and pigs, $12.00@12.50; roughs, $8.50@8.75; stags, $5.50@7.00. Sheep and lambs—Receipts, 2,600; lambs, 25c higher; lambs, $6.00@10.50; few $10.80; yearlings, $6.00@8.50; wethers, $6.50@7.00; ewes, $2.00@6.00; mixed sheep, $6.25@6.50.

East St. Louis, Ill.—(U. S. Bureau of Markets)—Cattle—Receipts, 150; compared with a week ago, steers and heifers, 50c to 75c lower; cows, 50c lower; canners steady; bulls, 25@50c lower; stockers and feeders, 25c lower; veal calves, $1 lower. Hogs—Receipts, 1,200; nominally steady; virtually no market; few loads of lights brought top, $11.15; bulk lights and mediums, $10.40@11.00; bulk of sales, $9.50@11.00; packer sows steady; pigs lower; compared with a week ago, generally 15c to 25c lower. Sheep—Receipts, none; no market; light lambs steady; heavy lambs and yearlings, 25c to 50c lower; ewes steady to 25c lower; lesser grades steady.

Kansas City, Mo.—(U. S. Bureau of Markets)—Cattle—Receipts, 14,600; beef steers and fat she-stock, mostly 15@25c lower; top steers early, $9.60; best heifers, $6.25; few cows, $7.00; canners and bulls steady; calves, steady to 50c lower; good and choice vealers, $11.00@11.50; stockers steady; feeders steady to 15c lower; stock cows and heifers, steady to strong. Hogs—Receipts, 11,000; mostly 10@15c lower than last week's close; best light lights to shippers, $10.25; top lights, $10.15; bulk, $9.50@10.00; pigs, 15@25c higher; good and choice fat pigs, $10.75@11.00. Sheep—Receipts, 12,500; mostly 25c lower; lambs, 25@40c lower; top, $9.50.

Chicago—(U. S. Bureau of Markets)—Cattle—Receipts, 1,000; compared with a week ago, beef steers, 25@50c lower; spots off more on heavies; butchers' cows and heifers, mostly 25c lower; bulls, stockers and feeders, steady to 25c lower; veal calves, 75c@$1 lower; spots off more. Hogs—Receipts, 3,000; light and medium scarce, 15@25c higher, others slow, mostly weak to 15c lower; top, $11.35; bulk of 200-lbs. down, $11.00@11.25; bulk of 220-lbs. up, $9.25@10.35; pigs strong to 25c higher; bulk desirable 90 to 120-lb. pigs, $10.50@10.75. Sheep—Receipts, 9,000; compared with week ago, light and handy lambs, 50@75c lower; feeders less; heavy lambs mostly $1 off; ewes about 25c lower; wethers around 50c lower; yearlings, 50c@$1 lower.

HARDING AIMS TO GIVE CROP PRICES BOOST

Continued From Page One.

introduction and speedy passage as soon as congress convenes may be decided upon or there is a possibility of the President declaring an embargo on agricultural imports which he has power to do under wartime legislation still in force.

It is contended that enormous imports are driving down the prices of domestic products and that if these imports were shut out, either by a high emergency tariff or the embargoes, there would be a speedy rise in prices for farm products, with no excuse for advances in retail costs.

Legislation designed to make impossible the pyramiding of profits between the producer and the consumer is the logical way of preventing unwarranted increases to the ultimate consumer, and it is not improbable that some such preventative will be incorporated in the farm relief measure and finally decided upon by the administration.

GIBBS CLAIMS EUROPE PREPARES FOR NEW WAR

Sir Philip Gibbs, English writer and war correspondent who spoke in Chicago on "the Irish question," told reporters that it would be only a matter of time before there would be another great European war. "The world hasn't moved forward as a result of the recent conflict," he declared.

The writer said the Franco-Polish and other European alliances "mean merely that the continent is choosing sides for another big fight."

Police reinforcements were called to quiet a dozen hecklers, said to be Sinn Fein sympathizers. They were escorted to the street and allowed to go free.

MILEAGE TIRES

NOT A SEWED OR SO-CALLED "SLIGHTLY USED" TIRE—but a sturdy fabric casing, honestly rebuilt of new materials, which we are confident will give mileage equivalent to a cord tire. Standard, non-skid tread of new live rubber same as drawing, which should give 6000 miles service.

A BRAND NEW TUBE FREE WITH EVERY TIRE ORDERED

28x3	$7.30	31x4	$10.95	32x4½	$12.55	36x4½	$14.50
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32x3½ SS. Only	9.70	34x4	11.95	35x4½	14.00		

State SS, or Clincher. SEND YOUR ORDER TODAY with $2.00 deposit. Tire shipped balance C. O. D., with section left unwrapped for examination. If not satisfactory, return tire and advise us at once. Deposit will be promptly returned as soon as tire is received.

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Wanted Women—Become Dress Designers; $45 week; learn while earning; sample lessons free. Franklin Institute, Dept. J-964, Rochester, N. Y.

$6-$18 a dozen decorating pillow tops at home; experience unnecessary; particulars for stamp. Tapestry Paint Co., 189 LaGrange, Ind.

HELP WANTED.

Young men, women, over 17, for postal mail service; $120 month; examinations April; experience unnecessary. For free particulars of instruction write John Leonard (former civil service examiner), 4 Equitable Bldg., Washington, D. C.

AGENTS WANTED.

We pay $200 monthly salary and furnish rig and expenses to introduce guaranteed poultry and stock powders. Bigler Company, X-519, Springfield, Ill.

MEDICAL.

Dr. McTaggart, Bryan, Ohio, is treating Piles successfully without cutting, or canterizing.

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Tobacco or snuff habit cured or no pay, $1.00 if cured. Remedy sent on trial. Superba Co., TH., Baltimore, Md.

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Patents Secured. Prompt service. Avoid dangerous delays. Send for our "Record of Invention" form and Free Book telling How to Obtain a Patent. Send sketch or model for examination. Preliminary advice without charge. Highest references. Write TODAY. J. L. Jackson & Co., 157 Ouray Bldg., Washington, D. C.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Revelation's key is found. God's special message concerning present economic conditions, the coming war of Armageddon, and the spirit of unseen world was reserved for this dawning period of reconstruction. Price of book 30 cents, prepaid. Revelation Publishing House, Parkersburg, W. Va.

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FARMS FOR SALE.

Pennsylvania and New York farms for sale. Good dairy country. Acreage $25 to $50. Don't pass up this opportunity. THE E. H. SHREVE REAL ESTATE CO., Union City, Pa.

MICHIGAN FARM LANDS FOR SALE.

113 Acres $1750 With Horse, Cow, Hogs and Poultry, equipment, crops included; near R. R. town, advantages; 40 acres machine-worked; 10-cow pasture; valuable wood, timber; variety fruit; good 6-room cottage, 40-ft. barn, poultry house, etc.; owner unable to operate; easy terms. SEE P. 33 New Spring Catalog 1100 Bargains. FREE. STROUT AGENCY, 150 S. Nassau st., New York City.

Admiralty Head in Britain Denies That He Rapped America

Lord Lee of Fareham, first lord of the admiralty, said that his reference to the United States in his discussion of naval matters at a meeting of naval architects in London had not been quoted correctly. What he really said, he asserted, was:

"We see the naval committee of the United States senate laying down the principle that America shall maintain a navy at least equal to that of any other power. That is a claim to equality which this country never has accepted in the past and never would accept save in connection with the great English speaking nation which sprang from our loins and ever holding a great place in our regard and confidence. * * * * The difference between our formula and America's is too slight to be made the subject of controversy, still less of friction or hostility."

In the London dispatch telling of the first lord's address he was quoted as referring to the claim that America should maintain a navy equal to that of any other power as follows:

"That is a claim that we should never have expected save in connection with the great English-speaking nation which sprang from our loins and ever holding a great place in our regard and confidence. * * *

"The difference between our formula and America's is too slight to be made the subject of controversy, still less of friction or hostility."

Deal to Purchase Land for Asylum in Ohio Is Blocked

The Ohio attorney general's office has issued an opinion which blocks the attempt of the Cox state board of administration, which retired last month, to purchase a site near Bucyrus for $385,805 for a new state institution for feeble-minded.

The contract was entered into by the board just before Governor Davis was inaugurated, the price paid being about $270 an acre.

"The legality of any contracts which may have been or may be entered into in connection with the matter are of deep concern to this office, which is charged with the duty of insisting upon the strict conformance to the laws and to seeing that all of the legal requirements are met," said the opinion. "In this case, it is the view of this office that it does not constitute a legal nor enforceable contract by reason of certain of its provisions and by reason of the specific fact that there was not, at or prior to the signing of the alleged contract, a certificate issued by the then state auditor to the effect that the funds were available."

Forms Believers' Union

John Farren of Birmingham, Eng., described as a "local preacher," left his entire estate of over $35,000 to form what is to be called "The Believer's Union." "Brethren, put your hand to this work, and may the Lord give guidance and wisdom richly in this matter," he ...

AHOY, BLONDES

Judge Retracts Cruel Words About 'Em Being Too Fickle to Sit As Jurors—He was One, Once.

Municipal Court Justice Morris of New York, whose recent ruling that blonde women were "too fickle" for jury service, stirred the ire of blondes in this and many other cities, let it become known diplomatically that he himself is a former blonde, and that he had been married to a blonde for 40 years.

"But what male is so callous as not to engage in tactful flattery when three pretty brunettes save the day?" he demanded, when interviewed in the presence of Mrs. Morris.

"That case might have been postponed again, had not three young brunettes responded to the call for volunteer taleswomen to fill the panel.

"Blondes fickle? Why, my boy, they're an excellent race—blondes."

The first woman inspector of schools in Brazil has recently been appointed in Rio de Janeiro.

No More Gas in Stomach & Bowels

If you wish to be premanently relieved of gas in the stomach and bowels, take Baalmann's Gas-Tablets.

Baalmann's Gas Tablets are prepared distinctly and especially for stomach gas, and particularly for all the bad effects coming from gas pressure.

That empty, gone and gnawing feeling at the pit of your stomach will disappear; that anxious and nervous feeling with heart palpitation will vanish, and you will once more be able to take a deep breath, so often prevented by gas pressing against your heart and lungs.

Your limbs, arms and fingers won't feel cold and go to sleep, because Baalmann's Gas-Tablets prevent gas interfering with the circulation; intense drowsiness and sleepy feeling after dinner will soon be replaced by a desire for some form of entertainment. Your distended stomach will reduce by inches because gas will not form after using Baalmann's Gas-Tablets.

Send for Baalmann's Gas-Tablets. Get the genuine in the yellow package, for only then can you expect the beneficial results many others have experienced.

Price One Dollar, Prepaid.

J. Baalmann, Chemist, 62 Second St., San Francisco, Calif.

All the Fire and Brilliance of a

FLASHING DIAMOND

Biggest bargain offered in a genuine "Dynite" gem. Just your name and address and we will send either of these bargains at the profit-smashing price of $3.79 Postage paid.

Send No Money! Just pay postman the bargain price of $3.79. If not satisfied return it and back goes your money. You must act QUICK! Send strip of paper fitting around second joint of finger for ring size. Order NOW!

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THE PEARLS CO. Dept. 227 Box 826 Chicago

11 PRINCIPLES PRESENTED BY UNION LEADER

Rail Workers' "Bill of Rights" Submitted to Railroad Labor Board by Jewell.

Eleven basic principles satisfactory to labor and on which labor would be willing to negotiate agreements, have been laid down before the United States Railroad Labor board by B. M. Jewell, president of the railway employes department of the American Federation of Labor.

Jewell submitted to the board what he termed a "concrete proposal" satisfactory to labor, in which he laid down "eleven fundamentals which constitute labor's irreducible bill of rights."

The 11 fundamentals Jewell enumerated as follows:

"The eight-hour day; proper overtime rates for work in excess of eight hours; arrangement of working shifts for reasonable living arrangements by employes and their families; reasonable rules for the protection of health and safety of employes; definition of the work of each craft to be performed by mechanics and helpers; formulation of apprenticeship rules; four years' apprenticeship requirement for mechanics; right of the majority of each craft to determine what organization shall represent them; right to select a committee to handle grievances; limiting of craft seniority to local shops and not permitting interchange of seniority with other shops or crafts, and right to organize without discrimination."

"We have no doubt that the railroad labor board will sanction these fundamentals. We know the public will support them when it really knows the truth.

"Our reason for summarizing these fundamentals," Jewell told the board, "is to demonstrate how easy it would have been had the railroads been sincere and how easy it would have been if they were straightforward now for the representatives of railroad management to meet with those who have been selected and entrusted by the rank and file of railroad employes to adjust the whole matter of national agreements."

Jewell concluded his statement with the request that Frank P. Walsh, attorney representing the unions, be permitted to "present certain matters and requests to the board."

Government Loses Out in Important Income Tax Case

The federal government lost an important income tax suit when the United States court of claims held that every estate, the net amount of which exceeds $50,000 and which has been, or is hereafter compelled to pay the federal estates tax, is entitled to deduct the amount so paid from its income tax return.

The effect of the decision, should it be sustained by the court to which the government noted an appeal, will be that the government will not only be compelled to refund all taxes already collected from estates under such circumstances, but will be unable to collect similar amounts from estates in the future.

The court awarded a judgment for $165,075, in favor of Senator Underwood of Alabama, Alan H. Woodward and Reginald Barrister, as executors of Joseph H. Woodward, in a suit to reverse the action of the commissioner of internal revenue in refusing to allow as a deduction under the income tax law the sum of $489,834 paid by the executors as federal estates tax.

The decision in the case was based on the construction of Section 214 of the revenue act of 1918, which provides that "in computing the net income there shall be allowed as deductions taxes paid or accrued within the taxable year imposed by the authority of the United States except income, war profits and excess profits taxes," the construction of the commissioner of internal revenue being that the amount paid under the estates tax law was not a tax which could be deducted, but "a toll taken from the property transferred."

Judge Advises "Dope Fiend" to Commit Suicide if Uncured

In sentencing John Pirtle of San Francisco, who had pleaded guilty to selling morphine and to having large quantities of the drug in his possession, Federal Judge Benjamin Bledsoe said:

"You would better commit suicide. I am going to sentence you to the federal penitentiary where you will receive the cure. If you can't keep away from morphine, after that, you will be an economic menace and better off dead."

President Harding and His Official Family

The first picture of President Harding with all the members of his cabinet. Sitting left to right—John W. Weeks, secretary of war; A. W. Mellen, secretary of the treasurer; Charles Evans Hughes, secretary of state; the President; Vice-President Coolidge; Edwin Denby, secretary of the navy. Standing—Albert B. Fall, secretary of the interior; Will H. Hays, postmaster general; Harry M. Daugherty, attorney general; Henry C. Wallace, secretary of agriculture; Herbert C. Hoover, secretary of commerce, and James J. Davis, secretary of labor.

ASK HARDING FOR EMBARGO

Senators Tell President of Farmers' Needs — To Rush Tariff Bill Work.

President Harding had under advisement last week an appeal from western senators and representatives that he place an immediate embargo on the importation of a number of farm commodities, including wool, hides, meats, and butter, represented as most keenly affected by general competition. When the request was made in conference, President Harding, after being told that many producers in those lines faced ruin unless relief was forthcoming, indicated that he desired to confer with certain members of his cabinet before acting on the appeal. Other products on the proposed embargo list were lemons, cotton seed oil and long staple cotton.

Adhering to its program for rushing through at the special session of congress an anti-dumping bill together with an added American valuation measure, possibly to be combined in one bill, the house ways and means committee referred to treasury department officials its resolution requesting them to frame a rough draft for its consideration.

With the committee also still holding firmly to the view that a permanent tariff bill should have priority over tax revision on the legislative program, it was intimated by Chairman Fordney that the actual work of writing the tariff measure might be begun when the committee met. Meanwhile there had been no intimation as to whether President Harding had approved the program agreed upon at the recent conference between the Republicans of the house committee and the senate finance committee.

At the treasury department, although Secretary Mellon publicly has expressed no views on the question of priority for tariff or revenue revision, officials already have begun the formulation of a tax revision policy.

EFFICIENT GLADYS

Her Income Tax Was 25 Cents Because She Kept Her Soda Water Accounts.

Uncle Sam got what was his and not one cent more in the income tax payment of a stenographer to Internal Revenue Collector Williamson in Columbus, Ohio.

A bulky envelope laid aside in the deluge of last minute payments by mail was opened by a clerk with expectations of a check running into five figures. Instead he found a mail order for 25 cents.

The girl, it developed, had kept a daily account of all her expenditures, and after the tax on a salary of $1,040 for the year had been figured at $1.60, further deductions were made for luxury taxes paid for everything from soda water to tooth paste and rouge. As evidence of payment, a number of cancelled stamps affixed by druggists to various articles purchased were enclosed with the $.25 money order—payment for the first quarter's tax.

The statement was accompanied by a note: "I think the government ought to be ashamed to take it."

But the government wasn't.

Magistrates in England in the sixteenth century had certain powers with regard to fixing wages and hours of labor.

FRANCE BEING RAPIDLY RESTORED BUT BUSINESS IS HANDICAPPED

"They say the world is a hundred billion dollars in debt as the result of the war," a Frenchman said to me in Paris recently. "To whom is the world in debt? Why to itself. Why not reverse the thing, declare we are immensely wealthy, the owners of a hundred billion dollars worth of government bonds, and immediately have prosperity ad lib?"

The subject may lead one along vague and untrodden paths, until he cannot decide whether debt is an asset or a liability. But, intangible or otherwise, this debt is handicapping European countries in their efforts to come back more than their real and material war losses of men and property.

Especially is this true in France. At the conclusion of the war it was agreed that France could not regain her former prosperity until the devastated regions were restored. Now the situation is reversed. Complete restoration of northern France will be the result, and not the cause, of normal conditions in the country as a whole.

Much Has Been Done.

Much has been done in the areas where the armies struggled for years. Railroads are running upon almost the identical schedules of seven years ago; farm lands in many places, especially in the Champagne and Chateau Thierry districts, have been splendidly cleared and must be producing close to 100 per cent; factories in many towns are busy; statistics show a big increase over a year ago in manufactures and exports; the great spring fair at Lyon opened March 1, for the first time since 1914, and reports a spectacular inquiry in all lines, and practically every Frenchman who has returned to the devastated area has been provided with shelter of some sort.

But stupendous tasks are still before the Frenchman, and he feels the smothering handicap of the war debt more than the half healed wounds of the great struggle. Two questions are alternating in the mind of every Frenchman, even though he knew nothing of economics in pre-war days. What about the exchange rate? is one; will the Germans pay? is the other. Both bear upon that vital problem of international credit.

To say the exchange rate favors one country and is against another is a mistake. An abnormal exchange rate is against all parties concerned. Britain is the creditor nation of Europe, and her money is worth many times that of France, Italy, Belgium, Spain or the Central Powers. Yet England is suffering almost as acutely from the present situation as France. To have goods which other nations cannot afford to buy is as bad as to be unable to buy because of lack of credit.

In the Lille district of northern France some factories are running, but many more are not. If the Germans have returned any great amount of factory machinery taken in 1918, it is not apparent to the naked eye. With the exchange as it is, it is difficult for a French manufacturer to buy new machinery abroad.

Wait for Indemnity.

But two other reasons are hindering replacement. There is no urgent demand to induce a manufacturer to hurry his property into a state of productive efficiency. Furthermore, the owners of the crippled plants have been repeatedly assured that Germany will be forced to indemnify them. This statement has been reiterated many times in the last 28 months and enough has transpired to make each owner constantly hope that the settlement day is just around the corner. So naturally he has waited, and is still waiting.

German coal is coming into France by the trainload, usually drawn by one of those big locomotives brought from the United States during the war. This coal movement is the one hopeful sign to date, in the eyes of the waiting Frenchman. It is high grade coal, each load artistically sprayed with whitewash. It's hard to purloin whitewashed coal and not be detected.

France is getting some coal from Belgium, England and the United States. In the southern part of the country they mine a sort of coal dust, which is mixed with water and pressed into squares. Coal is about 20 times as dear in France as it was in 1914.

Housing Serious Problem.

The housing situation in the devastated areas presents the most urgent problem. Although thousands are living in temporary buildings and partially destroyed houses, little systematic effort has been made to replace the ruined dwellings in any of the cities or towns. After driving through a smiling and prosperous countryside, the sight of a town in the same ruined condition as it was in 1918 comes as a sort of a shock.

Verdun, Chateau Thierry, Cambrai, Soissons, and other good sized cities apparently are housing a goodly portion of their pre-war population, but shell-shattered ruins, often overgrown with vines and weeds, are seen in every direction. Even the hotels have been slow to re-establish themselves. An excellent hostelry was recently opened at Verdun, two years after the armistice, but masons and plasterers are still working on the upper floors.

The Frenchman may tell you that his country will never get a sou from Germany, but he doesn't mean it. Right down in his boots he has a pretty definite idea that he will stick around until he gets something. Many travelers declare that the Frenchman is anxious again to go to war with the Teuton, to give him the real lacing he has coming. But this is not really true. The Frenchman has no more desire for war than the American, Englishman or German. But he is convinced that the salvation of his country depends upon some sort of financial indemnity from the German, and he and his government are eternally committed to the policy of force if other means fail.

Prices Always Steady.

No longer in France do prices of commodities rise and fall, as the natives see it. These prices are fixed, unchangeable. What does fluctuate is the value of the franc, in his mind. The temptation for profiteering is great, as no dealer feels that he has any explanation to make about supply and demand; the mere general assertion that the franc has slipped another notch seems to furnish a perfect alibi up to date. In all the myriad price changes which have taken place since the war, I have never heard of a single reduction in anything French.

The newspapers have started a crusade for lower prices in Paris, with some peculiar results. A hue and cry about exorbitant meat prices caused one of the largest dealers in Paris to announce sweeping reductions in all meats. The big slump was on, it was announced, and the public joyously hustled to take advantage thereof. After the alleged sales had continued for two days it was discovered that not a single article had been reduced. The mere general announcement had brought the crowd, and a huge business was transacted with prices in some cases even higher than previous quotations

CZECH-HUNGARY TREATY NEAR

Statesmen of Both Countries in Agreement on Principles for Reconciliation.

The preliminary discussions between Hungarian and Czecho-Slovak statesmen for the conclusion of an economic treaty between the two countries have resulted in an agreement on the principles of the accord, says an official statement issued by the Hungarian government.

"As a first act of reconciliation," the statement continues, "general amnesty has been granted to virtually all citizens of the two countries sentenced for, or charged with, offenses against the safety of the states. Those banished on the ground of riotous behavior will be allowed to return if they promise to be good citizens. The diplomatic missions in Prague and Budapest will become embassies. The economic, financial and commercial details of the treaty will be discussed by committees after holy week, partly in Prague and partly in Budapest."

The economic clauses of the convention, it was learned, will provide for the abolition of customs frontiers, the Czechs being anxious to obtain a market in Hungary for their large stocks of sugar, textiles and glass products.

Ohio Assembly Has Bill Which Would Ban Medicinal Beer

Former Attorney General Palmer's ruling that beer may be prescribed as medicine was responsible for the introduction in the Ohio legislature of a bill providing that only pure grain alcohol may be prescribed by Ohio physicians.

Not only would the prescription of liquor, other than pure alcohol, be prohibited, but its manufacture and sale also would be barred.

The proposed bill thus would prohibit physicians from prescribing whisky, wine or any other kind of liquor containing alcohol for medicine.

Permits to manufacture or even prescribe alcohol for medicine would have to be obtained from the state prohibition commissioner and no permit would be issued for two years to any person once convicted of violating provision of the law.

The bill was introduced in the senate by Senator McCoy of Mahoning county, and was read for a second time and referred to the temperance committee, which is expected to report it out for passage. While it does not carry an emergency clause, it is understood that such will be either attached by the committee or offered on the floor of the senate as an amendment when the bill comes up for a vote.